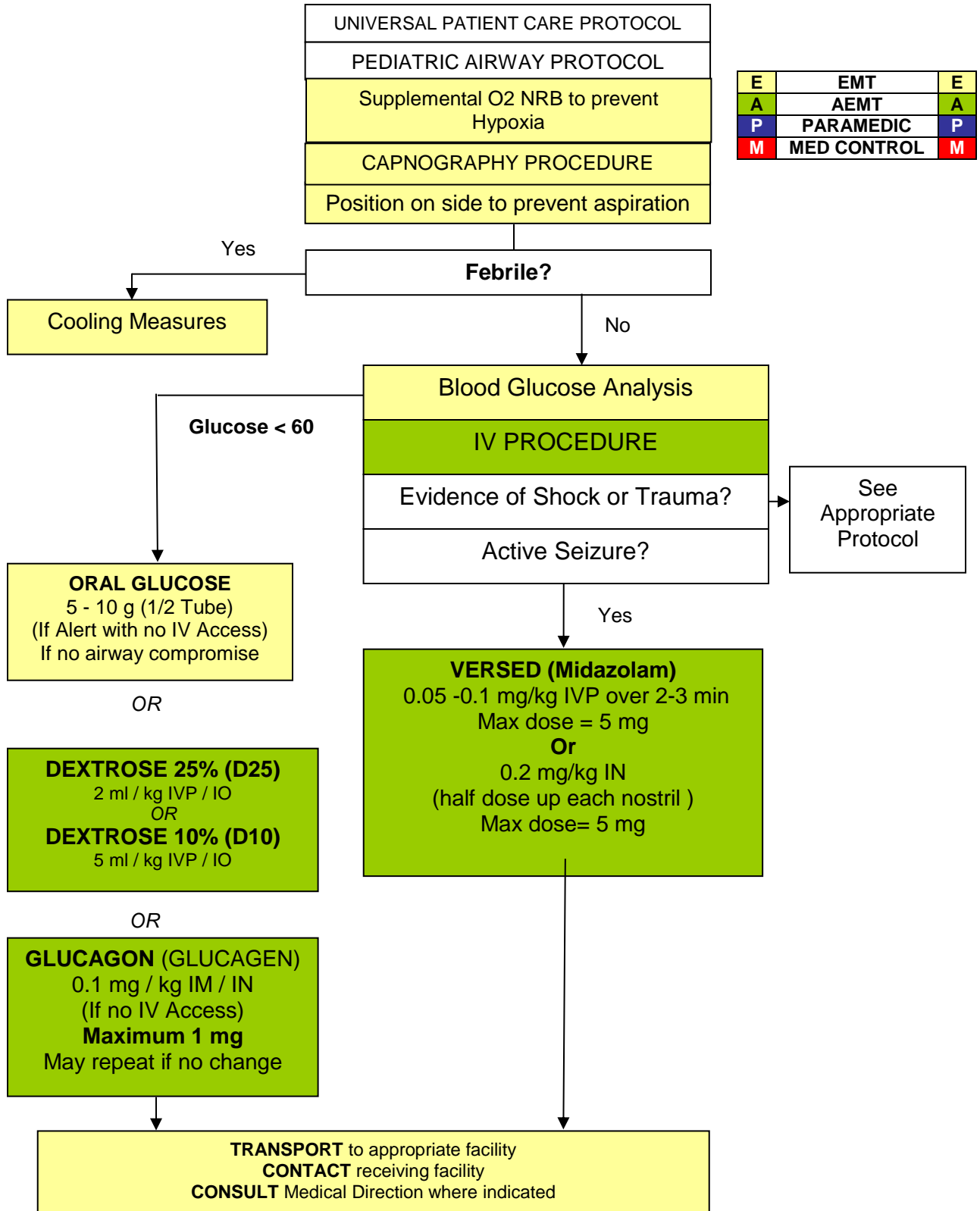




Section 10: Pediatric Medical Emergencies Protocols

PEDS MEDICAL EMERGENCIES: SEIZURES





Section 10: Pediatric Medical Emergencies Protocols

PEDS MEDICAL EMERGENCIES: SEIZURES-Cont.

PEARLS and KEY POINTS

| HISTORY | SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS | DIFFERENTIAL |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fever Prior history of seizures Seizure medications Reported seizure activity History of recent head trauma Congenital abnormality | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observed seizure activity Altered mental status Hot, dry skin or elevated body temperature | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fever Infection Head trauma Medication or toxin Hypoxia or respiratory failure Hypoglycemia Metabolic abnormality / acidosis Tumor |

Categories of Seizures

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Complex = Unconscious | Focal = Partial, Localized |
| Simple = Conscious | Generalized = All Body |

- **Simple Focal**
- **Simple Generalized**
- **Complex Focal**
- **Complex Generalized**

- **Status Epilepticus** is defined as two or more successive seizures without a period of consciousness or recovery. This is a true emergency requiring rapid airway control, treatment, and transport.
- **Grand mal seizures** (generalized) are associated with loss of consciousness, incontinence, and tongue trauma.
- **Focal seizures (petit mal)** affect only a part of the body and are not usually associated with a loss of consciousness.
- **Jacksonian seizures** are seizures, which start as a focal seizure and become generalized.
- Be prepared to assist ventilations especially if a benzodiazepine such as VERSED (Midazolam) is used.
- If evidence or suspicion of trauma, spine should be immobilized.
- If febrile, remove clothing and sponge with room temperature water.
- **In an infant, a seizure may be the only evidence of a closed head injury.**