



**SUSPECTED ACUTE STROKE OR INTRACRANIAL HEMORRHAGE
(STROKE TRIAGE CRITERIA)**

ALS STANDING ORDERS:

1. Base Hospital contact if patient meets Stroke Triage Criteria (see below).
2. Give no fluid or solids orally (may be risk for aspiration); dissolving Ondansetron in mouth is appropriate.
3. Monitor cardiac rhythm and document with rhythm strip.
4. Pulse oximetry, if room air oxygen saturation less than 95%:
 - ▶ *Provide high flow oxygen by mask or nasal cannula 6 l/min flow rate as tolerated.*
5. Blood glucose analysis, if blood glucose less than 80, administer one of:
 - ▶ *10% Dextrose 250 mL IV*
 - ▶ *Glucagon 1 mg IM if unable to establish IV.*

Note: IO access may be used for dextrose administration when patient is unconscious with blood glucose < 80, unable to establish IV and there is no response to IM glucagon.
6. For nausea or vomiting:
 - ▶ *Ondansetron (Zofran®): ODT 8 mg (two 4 mg tablets) to dissolve orally on inside of cheek as tolerated;*
OR,
4 mg IV, may repeat after approximately 3 minutes for continued nausea or vomiting.
7. If patient does not meet Stroke Triage Criteria, ALS escort to nearest ERC.

Approved:

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TREATMENT GUIDELINES:

1. If either of the following two sets of criteria is met and blood glucose is above 80 (or corrected to be above 80), contact Base Hospital for triage to a Stroke Prepared Hospital:
 - **Ischemic Stroke Suspected:**
 - All of the criteria below must be met:
 - ✓ No seizure immediately prior to or upon arrival to scene
 - ✓ Last seen normal or at usual neurological baseline within past 7 hours¹, and
 - ✓ Glasgow Coma Score 10 or greater, and
 - ✓ Arm (pronator) drift or facial paresis (new onset).
 - **Intracerebral Hemorrhage Suspected:**
 - Sudden, severe headache with onset in past 7 hours with any one of:
 - ✓ Vomiting (repeated), or
 - ✓ Neurological deficit (hemi-paresis or weakness, gaze to one side, or asymmetric pupils without prior eye surgery), or
 - ✓ Altered mental status, or
 - ✓ Marked blood pressure elevation (diastolic > 100 mm Hg).
- ¹ A patient who awakens from a sleep period of more than 7 hours with ischemic stroke symptoms is considered to have an unknown time for onset of stroke and should be transported to the nearest ERC.
2. Base contact required on all Stroke triage designations to alert receiving facility stroke team to prepare to immediately accept patient.
3. Avoid intraosseous and external jugular lines for potential SNRC patients as these lines may allow for uncontrolled bleeding without the ability to compress the bleeding site if a patient receives thrombolytics.
4. It is important to determine and document the “last know well” time and onset of stroke symptoms reported by patient, family or bystanders. Attempt to get the contact phone number of family or witness to verify the last know well.

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