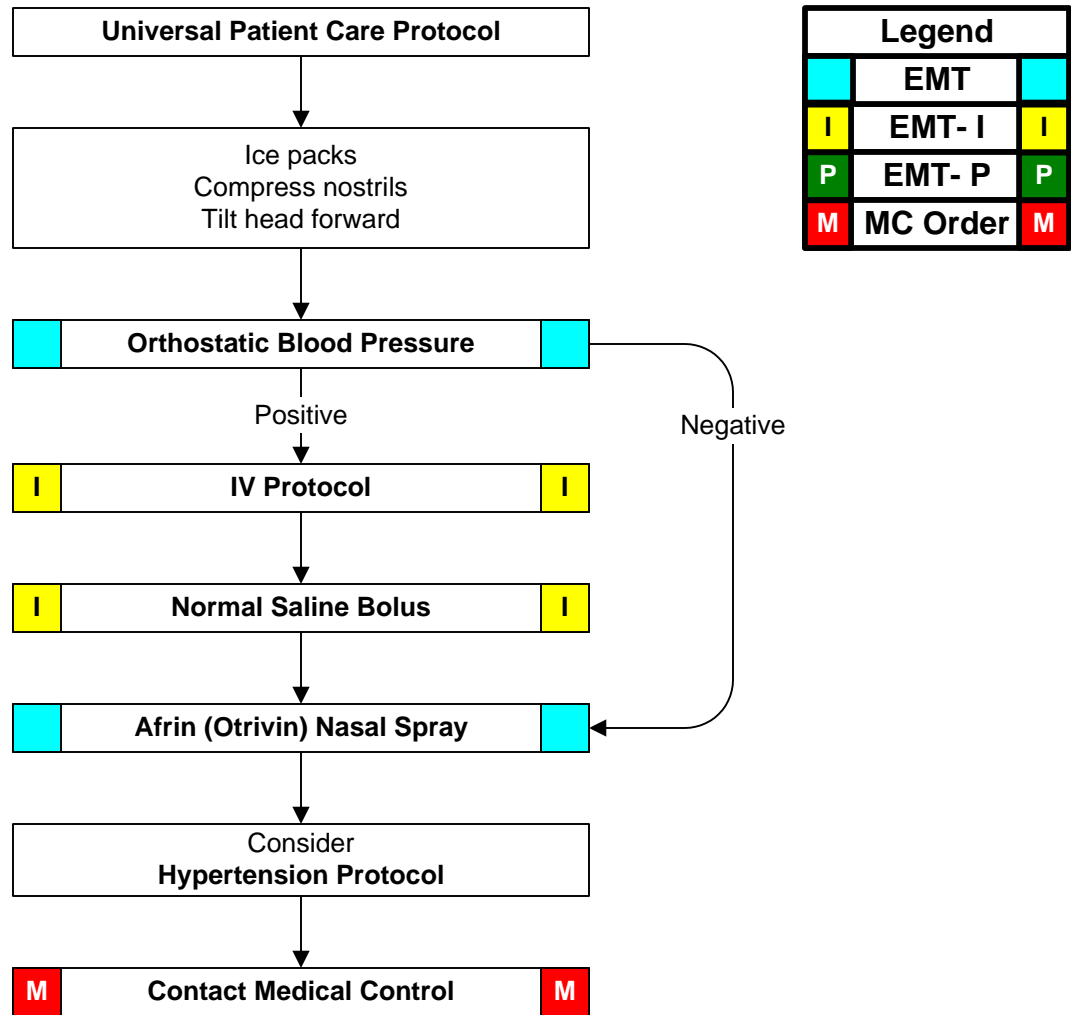




Epistaxis



History: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age • Past medical history • Medications (HTN, anticoagulants) • Previous episodes of epistaxis • Trauma • Duration of bleeding • Quantity of bleeding 	Signs and Symptoms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bleeding from nasal passage • Pain • Nausea • Vomiting 	Differential: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trauma • Infection (viral URI or Sinusitis) • Allergic rhinitis • Lesions (polyps, ulcers) • Hypertension
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Pearls: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam: Mental Status, HEENT, Heart, Lungs, Neuro • Avoid Afrin in patients who have a blood pressure of greater than 110 diastolic or known coronary artery disease. • It is very difficult to quantify the amount of blood loss with epistaxis. • Bleeding may also be occurring posteriorly. Evaluate for posterior blood loss by examining the posterior pharynx. • Anticoagulants include aspirin, coumadin, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications (ibuprofen), and many over the counter headache relief powders.
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