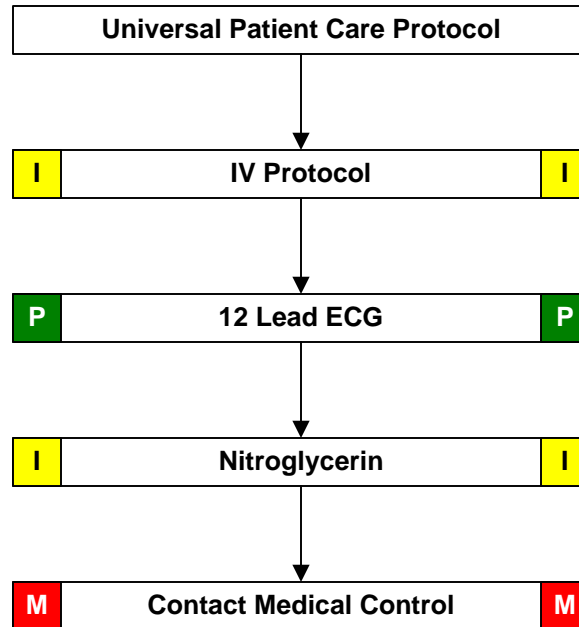




# Hypertension



<b>History:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documented hypertension</li> <li>• Related diseases: diabetes, CVA renal failure, cardiac</li> <li>• Medications (compliance ?)</li> <li>• <b>Viagra</b></li> <li>• Pregnancy</li> </ul>	<b>Signs and Symptoms:</b> <b>One of these:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systolic BP 200 or greater</li> <li>• Diastolic BP 120 or greater</li> </ul> <b>AND at least one of these:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• Nosebleed</li> <li>• Blurred vision</li> <li>• Dizziness</li> </ul>	<b>Differential:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hypertensive encephalopathy</b></li> <li>• <b>Primary CNS Injury</b> (Cushing's response = bradycardia with hypertension)</li> <li>• <b>Myocardial infarction</b></li> <li>• <b>Aortic dissection (aneurysm)</b></li> <li>• <b>Pre-ecampsia / Eclampsia</b></li> </ul>
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Legend		
I	EMT	I
I	EMT- I	I
P	EMT- P	P
M	MC Order	M

<b>Pearls:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Exam: Mental Status, Skin, Neck, Lung, Heart, Abdomen, Back, Extremities, Neuro</b></li> <li>• <b>Avoid Nitroglycerin in any patient who has used Viagra in the past 24 hours due to potential severe hypotension.</b></li> <li>• Never treat elevated blood pressure based on one set of vital signs.</li> <li>• Nitroglycerin may be given to lower blood pressure in patients who have an elevated diastolic BP of <math>\geq 120</math> and are symptomatic with chest pain, respiratory distress, syncope, headache or mental status changes.</li> <li>• Symptomatic hypertension is typically revealed through end organ damage to the cardiac, CNS or renal systems.</li> <li>• All symptomatic patients with hypertension should be transported with their head elevated.</li> </ul>
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