

EPISTAXIS

History:

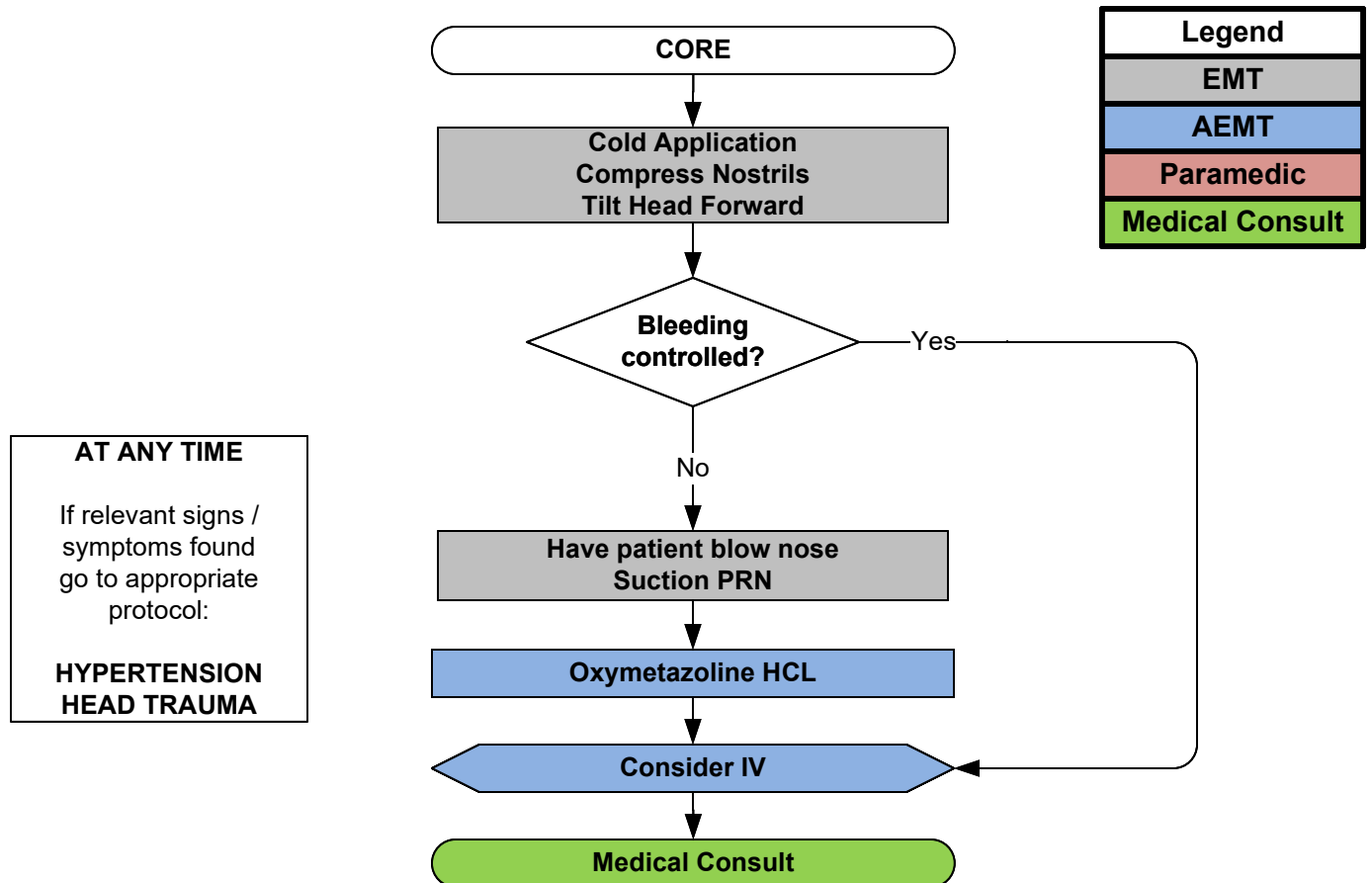
- Age
- Past Medical History
- Medications (hypertensive meds, anticoagulants, ASA, NSAIDS)
- Previous episodes of epistaxis
- Trauma
- Duration of bleeding
- Quantity of bleeding

Signs and Symptoms:

- Bleeding from nasal passage
- Pain
- Nausea / vomiting

Differential:

- Trauma
- Hypertension
- Infection (viral URI or sinusitis)
- Allergic rhinitis
- Lesions (polyps, ulcers)



Pearls:

- Avoid oxymetazoline HCL in patients who have a blood pressure of greater than 110 diastolic or known coronary artery disease.
- Bleeding may also be occurring posteriorly. Evaluate for posterior blood loss by examining the posterior pharynx.
- Anticoagulants include warfarin (Coumadin), heparin, enoxaparin (Lovenox), dabigatran (Pradaxa), rivaroxaban (Xarelto), and many over the counter headache relief powders.
- Anti-platelet agents like aspirin, clopidogrel (Plavix), aspirin/dipyridamole (Aggrenox), and ticlopidine (Ticlid) can contribute to bleeding.