

EMMC

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT – JOINT PRACTICE PROTOCOL - JPP

Subject: **Acute Stroke
Symptoms**

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Related References:

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I. Purpose

- A. To assure that patients presenting to the ED with acute stroke symptoms will be assessed and managed in an expeditious and appropriate manner.

II. Policy

- A. The ED personnel may initiate rapid treatment of patients presenting with Acute stroke symptoms, following an appropriate assessment.

III. Performed By

- A. All ED nursing personnel

IV. Procedure

- A. Patient will be triaged, per policy.
- B. Care will be initiated as follows:
 - * **Immediately to Critical Care room and clinician notified.**
 - 1. Assess airway, breathing and circulation, treat any deficiencies.
 - 2. Oxygen as appropriate to maintain sat at greater than 94%
 - 3. Cardiac monitoring, continuous pulse oximetry, cycle blood pressure every 15 minutes, neuro checks every 30 minutes.
 - 4. Initiate IV lock, draw labs for PTT, INR, CMP, CBC, Random Troponin, Fibrinogen
 - 5. Finger stick blood sugar
 - 6. Head CT w/o contrast (Clinician to evaluate patient prior to test.)
 - 7. NPO, until dysphagia screen performed
 - 8. EKG

IV. Procedure

9. Obtain urine, consult with clinician for urine drug screen, foley or mini-cath if indicated.
10. Head of bed at 30 degrees, if possible.