

**Barnes Jewish Hospital/Washington University
Trauma Service**

Critical Pathway for Management of Patients with Severe Traumatic Brain Injury 2015

*General parameters
for ALL patients*

- Insert an arterial line and central venous catheter
- Maintain systolic BP > 90 mmHg Or use MAP >85 with transducer leveled at the phlebostatic axis
- Utilize attached protocol to manage hemodynamic status
- Keep hemoglobin > 10
- Maintain serum Sodium > 140
- Encourage use of ETCO₂ monitoring
- Initiate nutrition as soon as medically appropriate
- Initiate anticonvulsants for the first 7 days after injury; Keppra is the agent of choice
- Consult neurosurgery prior to patient extubation

Initial Interventions

- Establish airway, breathing and circulation
- Ventilate to maintain paCO₂ to 35-38 mmHg
- Provide supplemental O₂ to keep paO₂ > 70mmHg or spO₂ >94%
- Maintain normothermia
- Maintain head of bed to optimize CPP and minimize ICP (30° HOB elevation works best for most patients)
- Ensure good head and neck alignment
- Reduce unnecessary noxious stimuli
- See sedation algorithm

* When patient has an unexplained ICP elevation or there is a change in mental status:

- Contact Neurosurgery
- Check the ABG to ensure paO₂ and paCO₂ are in the desired range
- Evaluate that the patient's position is not limiting ventilation or causing increased ICP
- Check C-collar/trach ties
- Contact Neurosurgery to troubleshoot monitor
- A combination of ICP, CPP, PbrO₂, clinical assessment and CT scan findings should be used to determine need for treatment

Insert ICP monitor as
clinically indicated (See ICP
placement guideline)

Maintain CPP ≥60
mmHg (see Hemodynamic
Management protocol below)

Intracranial hypertension? > 20
mmHg or > 25 mmHg after
Decompressive craniectomy

No

Slowly remove
treatment for ICP

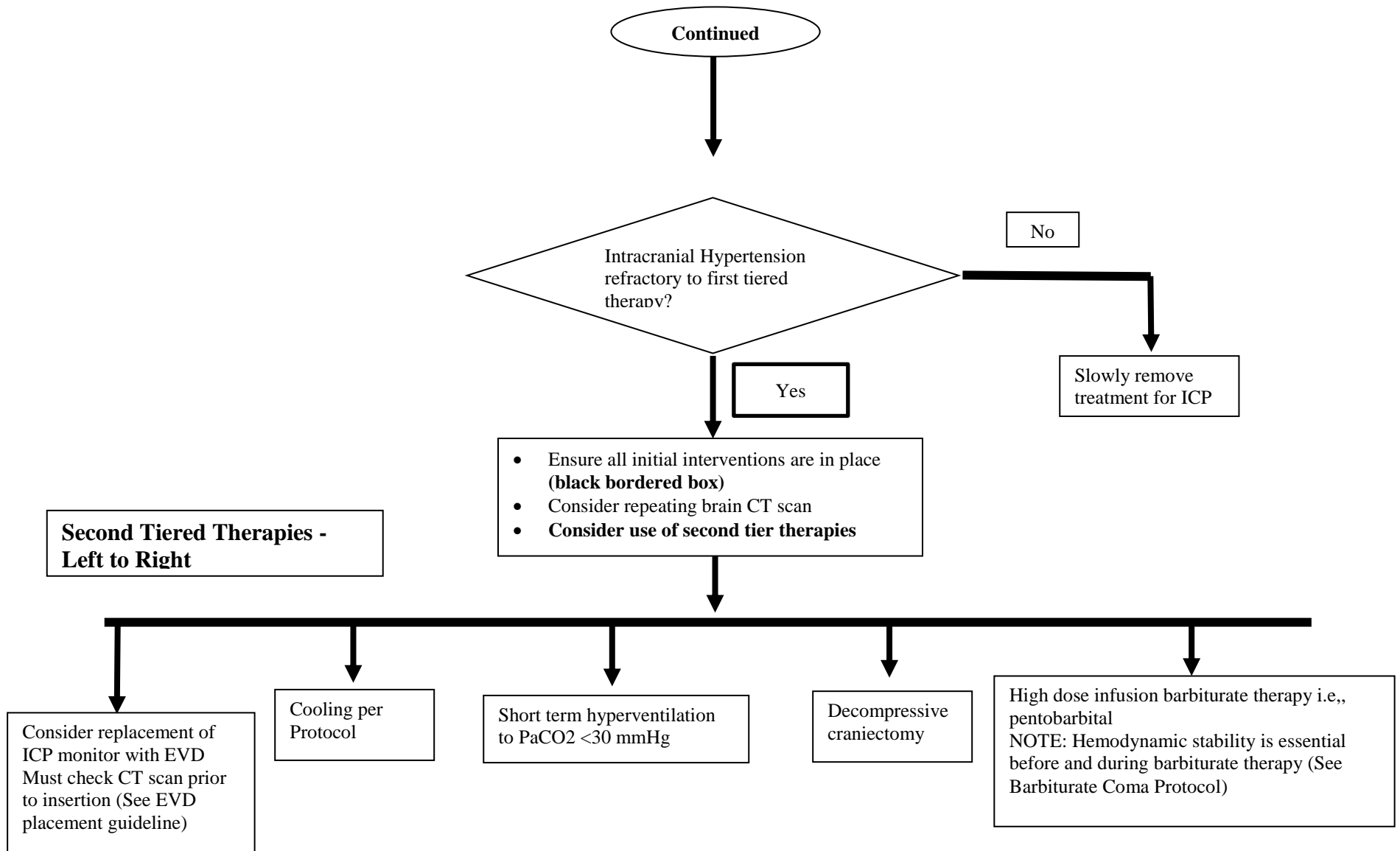
Yes

First Tier Therapies -Left to Right

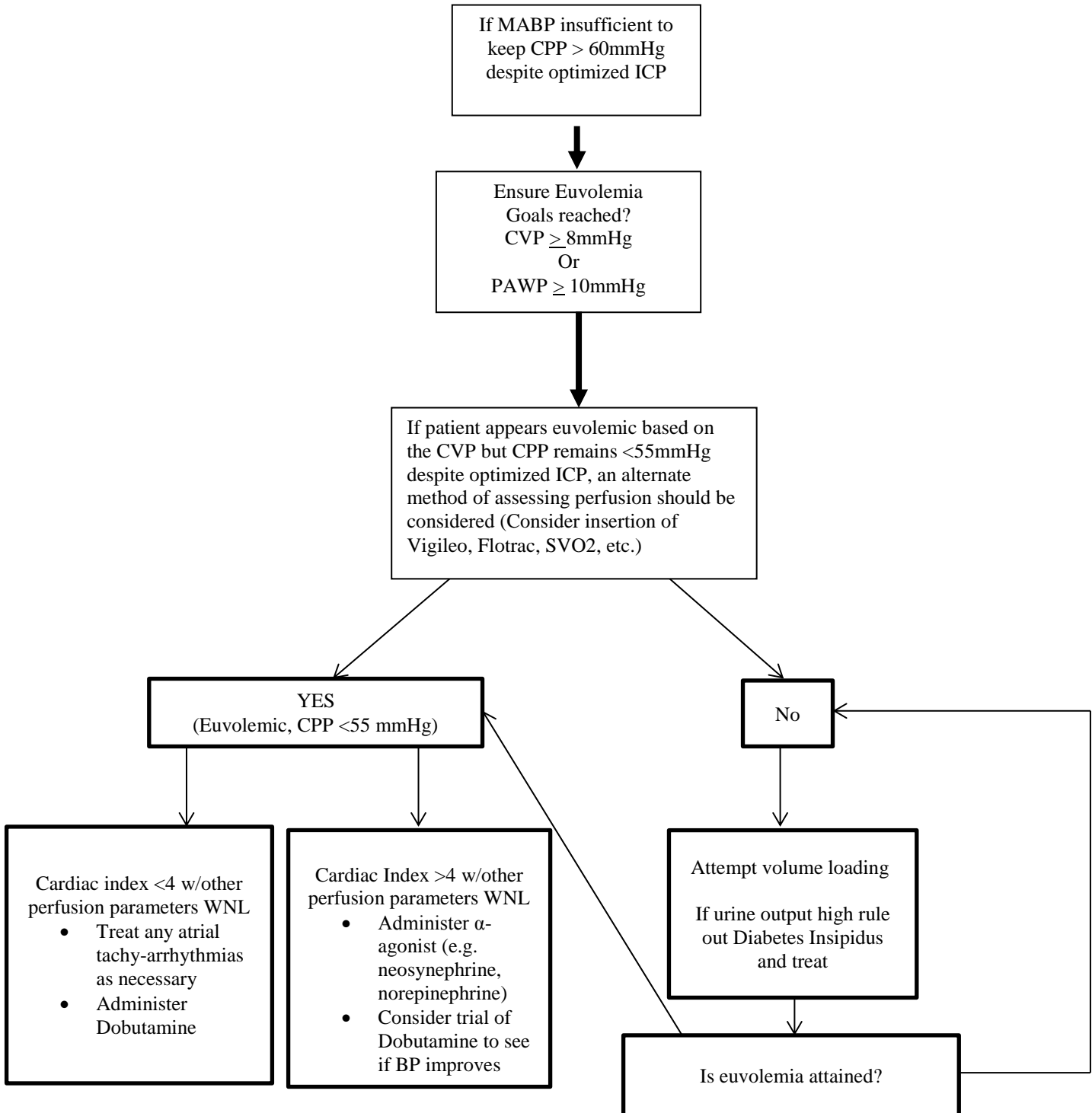
- **See black bordered box ***
- Administer sedation (see TBI sedation protocol at bottom)
- Consider repeating a brain CT scan

- Ensure all initial interventions are in place *
- Mannitol 0.50 – 1.0 gm/kg
- Hypertonic saline (3% -1-1.5 cc/kg/hour, 5% 3-4ml/kg/hour bolus); For acute ICP management consider a 30 cc bolus of 23.4% hypertonic saline (Administration limited to ED/ICU)
- Maintain serum Osmo 310 - 330 mOsm/L (Osm Gap <20)

- Ensure hyperventilation all initial interventions are in place *
- Short term to paCO₂ to 30- 35 mmHg for < 4 hours
- AVOID hyperventilation in first 24 hours after injury when CBF is often



Hemodynamic Management of Isolated Intracranial Hemorrhage



Traumatic Brain Injury Sedation Protocol

