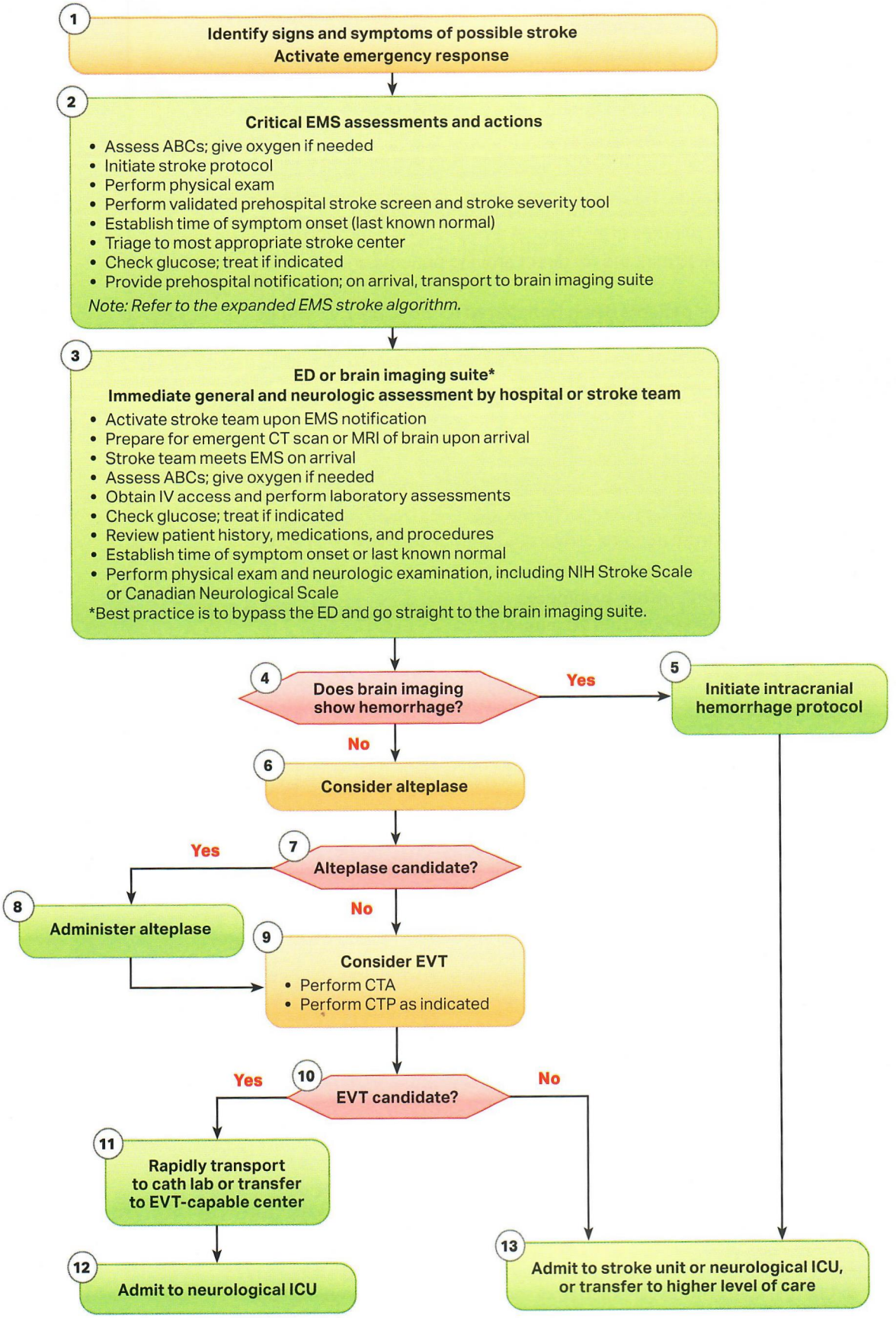
1
Identify signs and symptoms of possible stroke
Activate emergency response
2
Critical EMS assessments and actions
• Assess ABCs; give oxygen if needed
• Initiate stroke protocol
• Perform physical exam
• Perform validated prehospital stroke screen and stroke severity tool
• Establish time of symptom onset (last known normal)
• Triage to most appropriate stroke center
• Check glucose; treat if indicated
• Provide prehospital notification; on arrival, transport to brain imaging suite
Note: Refer to the expanded EMS stroke algorithm.
3
ED or brain imaging suite*
Immediate general and neurologic assessment by hospital or stroke team
• Activate stroke team upon EMS notification
• Prepare for emergent CT scan or MRI of brain upon arrival
• Stroke team meets EMS on arrival
• Assess ABCs; give oxygen if needed
• Obtain IV access and perform laboratory assessments
• Check glucose; treat if indicated
• Review patient history, medications, and procedures
• Establish time of symptom onset or last known normal
• Perform physical exam and neurologic examination, including NIH Stroke Scale or Canadian Neurological Scale
*Best practice is to bypass the ED and go straight to the brain imaging suite.
4
Does brain imaging show hemorrhage?
Yes
5
Initiate intracranial hemorrhage protocol
No
6
Consider alteplase
7
Alteplase candidate?
Yes
8
Administer alteplase
No
9
Consider EVT
• Perform CTA
• Perform CTP as indicated
10
EVT candidate?
Yes
No
11
Rapidly transport to cath lab or transfer to EVT-capable center
12
Admit to neurological ICU
13
Admit to stroke unit or neurological ICU, or transfer to higher level of care