

Work Instruction

Management of Paediatric Patients with Near Hanging or Strangulation

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Executive sponsor	Executive Director Medical Service			Effective date	14/06/2018
Author/custodian	Director, Paediatric Emergency Medicine			Review date	14/06/2021
Supercedes	New				
Applicable to	Medical and nursing staff caring for patients who have had a near strangulation event				
Authorisation	Executive Director of Clinical Services-QCH				

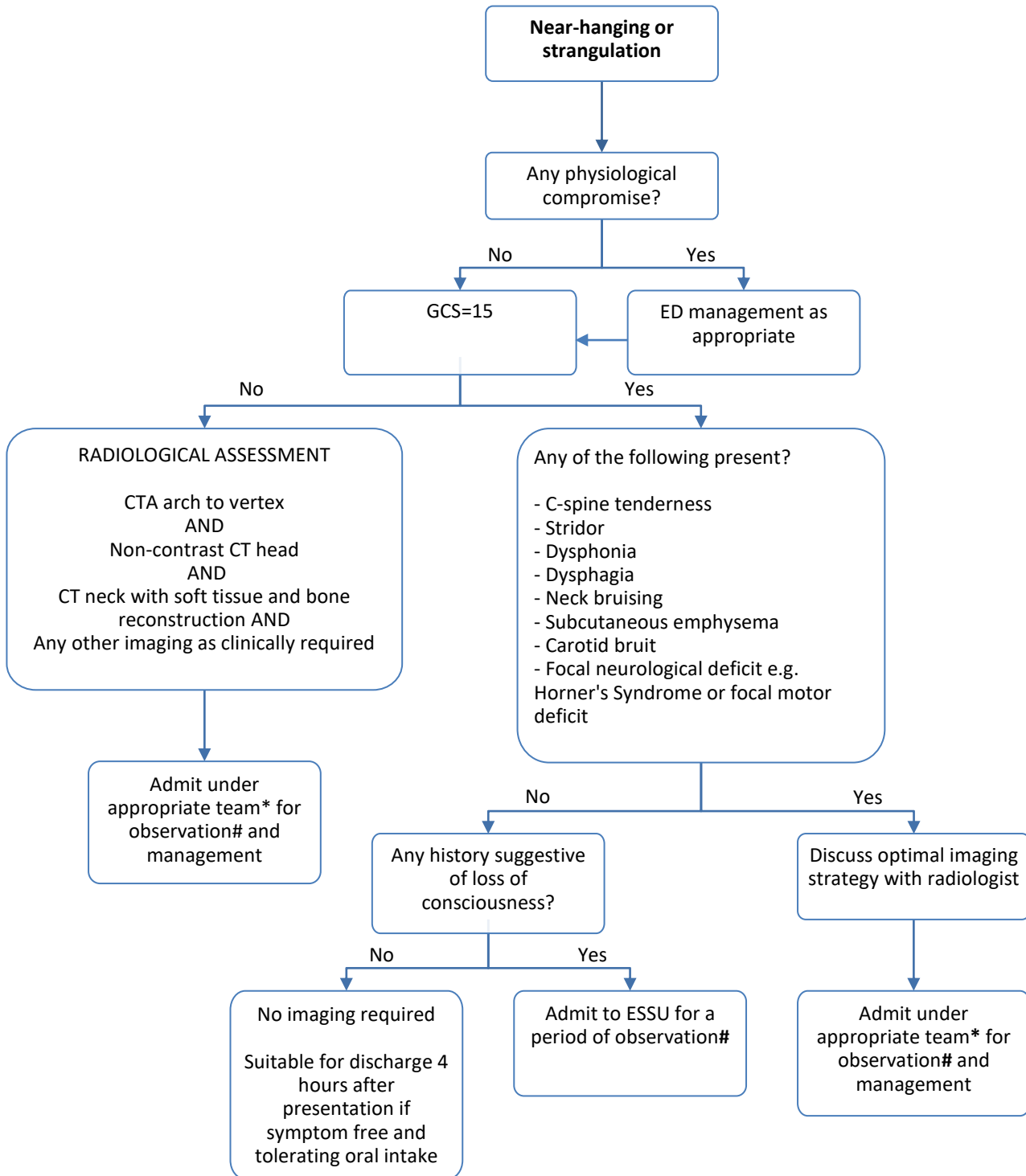
Purpose

This document is to ensure the safe and effective assessment and management of patients who have had a near hanging or strangulation event.

Scope

This work instruction applies to medical and nursing staff looking after patients who have had a near hanging or strangulation event.

Instruction



ED will refer all patients with near hanging or strangulation secondary to suspected self harm to ART for assessment in ED or for consultation liaison psychiatry referral

*An appropriate team can be a non-CYMHS inpatient team, PICU or ED

The duration of observation will be at the discretion of the senior non-CYMHS inpatient team or senior ED doctor

Notes:

- ED clinicians will provide and document discharge instructions for all patients who are assessed as being medically-appropriate for discharge home or suitable for CYMHS admission from the ED or Emergency Short Stay Unit (ESSU). For CYMHS inpatients this will include documentation of who to call if CYMHS ward nurses have concerns.
- To mitigate the risk of absconding, a nurse special should be considered for patients admitted to non-CYMHS wards if near-hanging or strangulation is secondary to suspected self harm.

Consultation

Key stakeholders who reviewed this version:

- ED SMO QCH
- Psychiatrist QCH

Instructions distributed for comment

- ED consultants
- QCH Radiology department

Audit/evaluation strategy

Level of risk	Medium
Strategy	Review of incident reports relating hanging/strangulation
Audit/review tool(s) attached	N/A
Audit/Review date	Yearly
Review responsibility	Emergency
Key elements / Indicators / Outcomes	N/A

Work Instruction revision and approval history

Version No.	Modified by	Amendments authorised by	Approved by
1.0	Director Paediatric Emergency Medicine	Divisional Director, Critical Care	Executive Director Hospital Services

Keywords	Hanging, Strangulation
Accreditation references	NSQHS Standards (1-10): 1, 6, 9