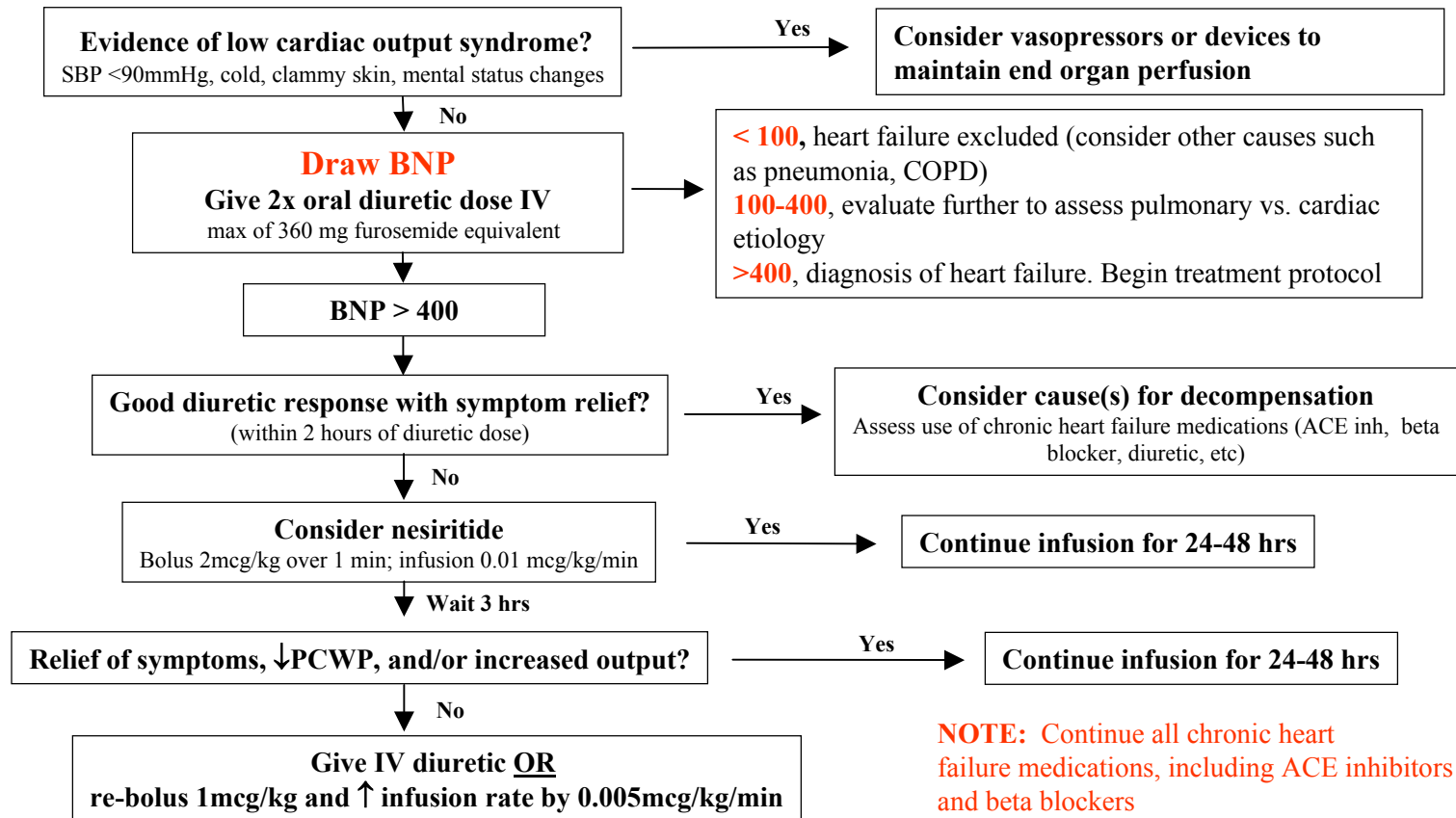


University of Kentucky BNP / Nesiritide Protocol

Patient with signs/symptoms of heart failure (i.e. SOB at rest, peripheral edema)



Note: Hold nitroglycerin infusion (if active) immediately prior to starting nesiritide (Natrecor®)

Check BP Q15 minutes x 1 hour following bolus, then Check BP Q30 minutes x 1 hour, then

Check BP Q4 hours for duration of infusion

Before requesting next bag (approx every 24 hours) assess patient volume status to determine need for continued therapy

Dosage Adjustment: If symptomatic hypotension occurs, the infusion should be discontinued and the patient supported. Nesiritide may be restarted at 30% of the previously tolerated dose once patient is stabilized.

Drug Compatibility: Nesiritide is incompatible with intravenous formulations of heparin, insulin, furosemide, bumetanide, torsemide, enalaprilat, and hydralazine.

Consider Drawing BNP 3 hrs after nesiritide infusion is stopped and tailor chronic therapy.