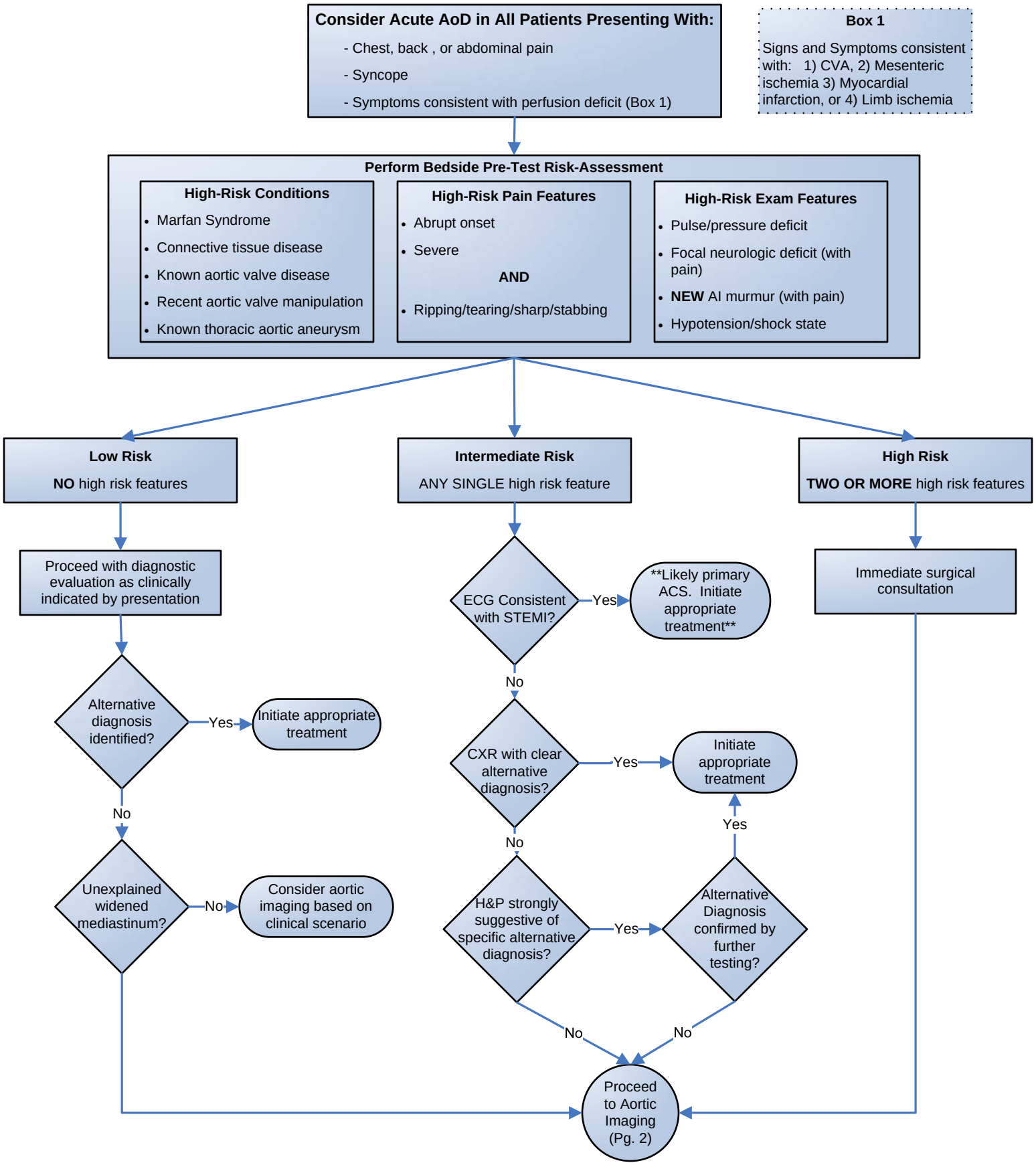
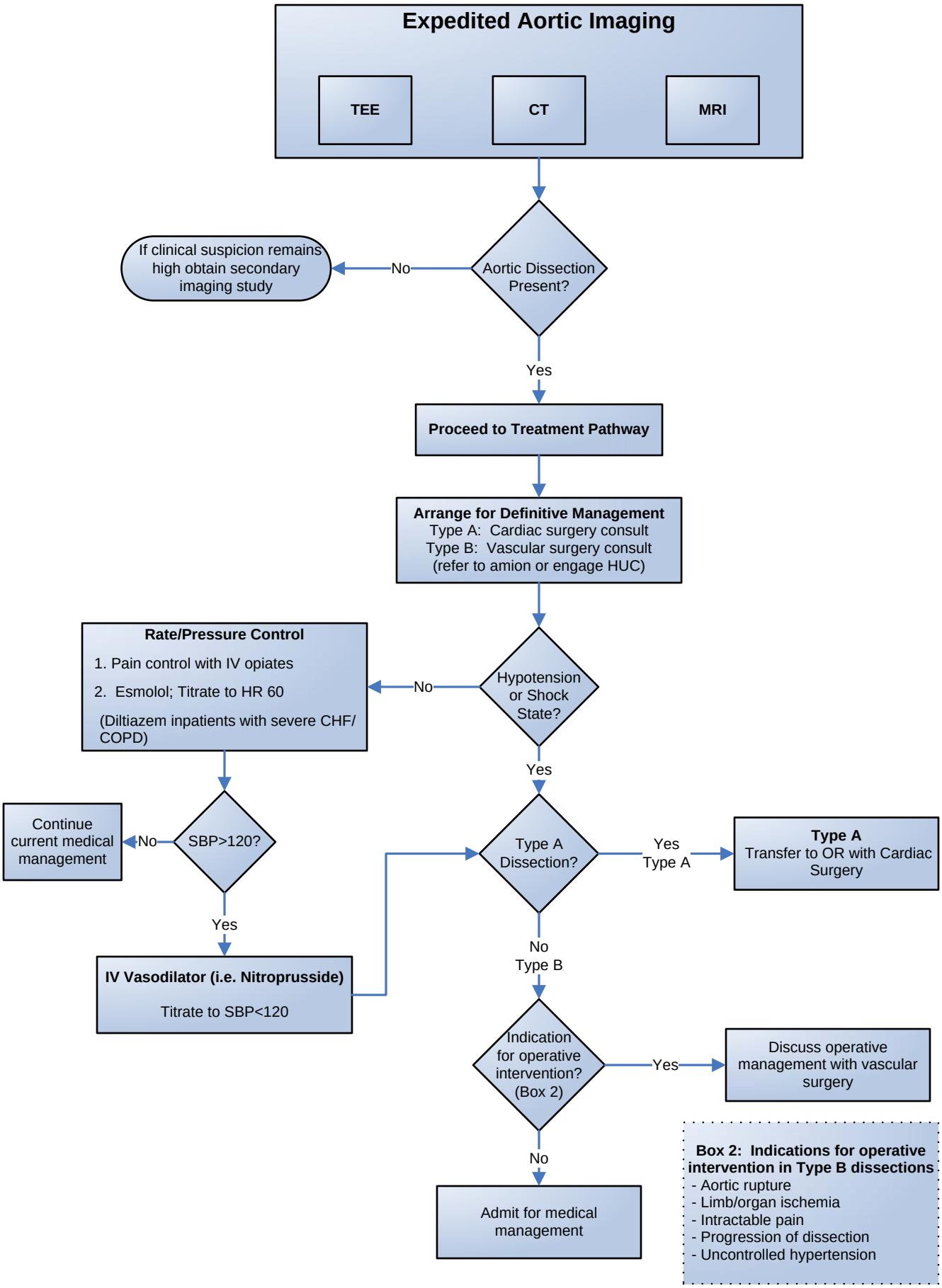
EmergencyKT: Aortic Dissection



Revised: 6-20-16


Expedited Aortic Imaging
TEE
CT
MRI
Aortic Dissection Present?
No
If clinical suspicion remains high obtain secondary imaging study
Yes
Proceed to Treatment Pathway
Arrange for Definitive Management
Type A: Cardiac surgery consult
Type B: Vascular surgery consult
(refer to amion or engage HUC)
Hypotension or Shock State?
No
Rate/Pressure Control
1. Pain control with IV opiates
2. Esmolol; Titrate to HR 60
(Diltiazem inpatients with severe CHF/ COPD)
Yes
SBP>120?
No
Continue current medical management
Yes
IV Vasodilator (i.e. Nitroprusside)
Titrate to SBP<120
Type A Dissection?
Yes Type A
Type A
Transfer to OR with Cardiac Surgery
No Type B
Indication for operative intervention? (Box 2)
Yes
Discuss operative management with vascular surgery
No
Admit for medical management
Box 2: Indications for operative intervention in Type B dissections
- Aortic rupture
- Limb/organ ischemia
- Intractable pain
- Progression of dissection
- Uncontrolled hypertension