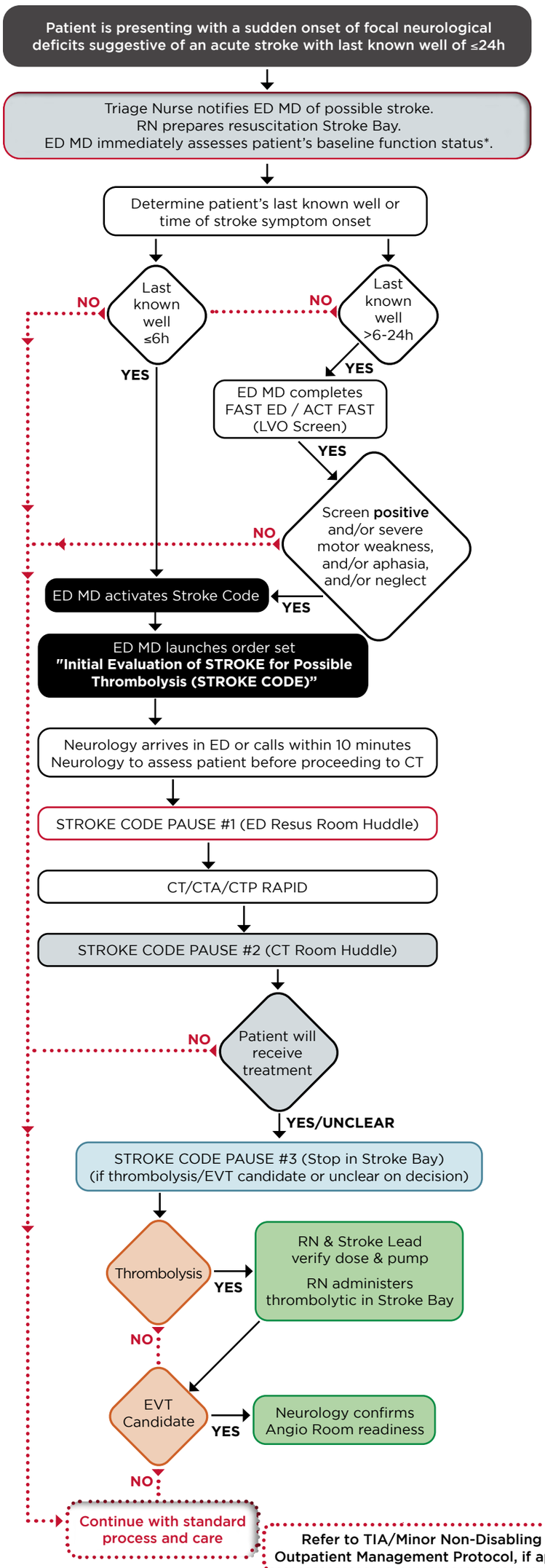
DECISION ALGORITHM FOR ACUTE STROKE CODE
TOH CIVIC - EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

PURPOSE: To support the Emergency Department and Stroke Team in: 1) the immediate assessment of a patient presenting with possible stroke, (2) the Stroke Code process, and (3) the potential treatment of a stroke patient.



*Patients with severe comorbidities, bed bound, or with severe pre-existing cognitive impairment to a degree where they cannot communicate or recognize family members are NOT candidates for EVT or thrombolysis
Consult Neurology for uncertain cases

STROKE CODE PAUSE #1
ED RESUSCITATION ROOM HUDDLE - Facilitated by Stroke Code Lead

NAMES & ROLES: STROKE CODE LEAD SAYS IT LOUDLY

- **Stroke Code LEAD:** "I am the Sr Resident or Staff Neurologist. I will be the Stroke Code Lead. I will inform Primary ED RN of treatment decision and verify the dose and pump with Primary ED RN."
- **Primary ED RN:** "I am the Primary ED RN. I will provide nursing interventions, bring the stroke box and the IV pump."

SAFETY CHECKLIST: STROKE CODE LEAD SAYS IT LOUDLY

1. **AIRWAY** - Are we satisfied with the **AIRWAY**?
2. **IV ACCESS** - Do we have **IV ACCESS**?
3. **LABS** - Has **BLOODWORK** been **ORDERED** and **SENT**?
4. **WEIGHT** - Do we have a **WEIGHT**?
5. **CT** - Has **CT** been **ORDERED**? Is **CT READY**? Which **CT**?
6. **STROKE BOX AND IV PUMP** - Do we have **STROKE BOX** and working **IV PUMP**?
7. **IDENTIFICATION AND BELONGINGS** - Are **ID STICKERS**, **ARMBAND** and **BELONGINGS** with patient?

STROKE CODE PAUSE #2
CT ROOM HUDDLE

WHEN PLAIN CT COMPLETES - LEAD SAYS IT LOUDLY
"Patient is not a bleed. We need to confirm patient's weight and dosage for thrombolysis in case we decide to treat."
OR
"Patient is a bleed. We aren't going to treat with thrombolysis or EVT."

STROKE CODE PAUSE #3
STOP IN STROKE BAY

TREATMENT DECISION - LEAD SAYS IT LOUDLY

- **No Treatment** - "We aren't going to treat with thrombolysis or EVT."
- **Unclear** - "We are unsure whether we will proceed with treatment, Primary ED RN and patient can return to resus"
- **Yes Treatment** - "We will be proceeding with ..."