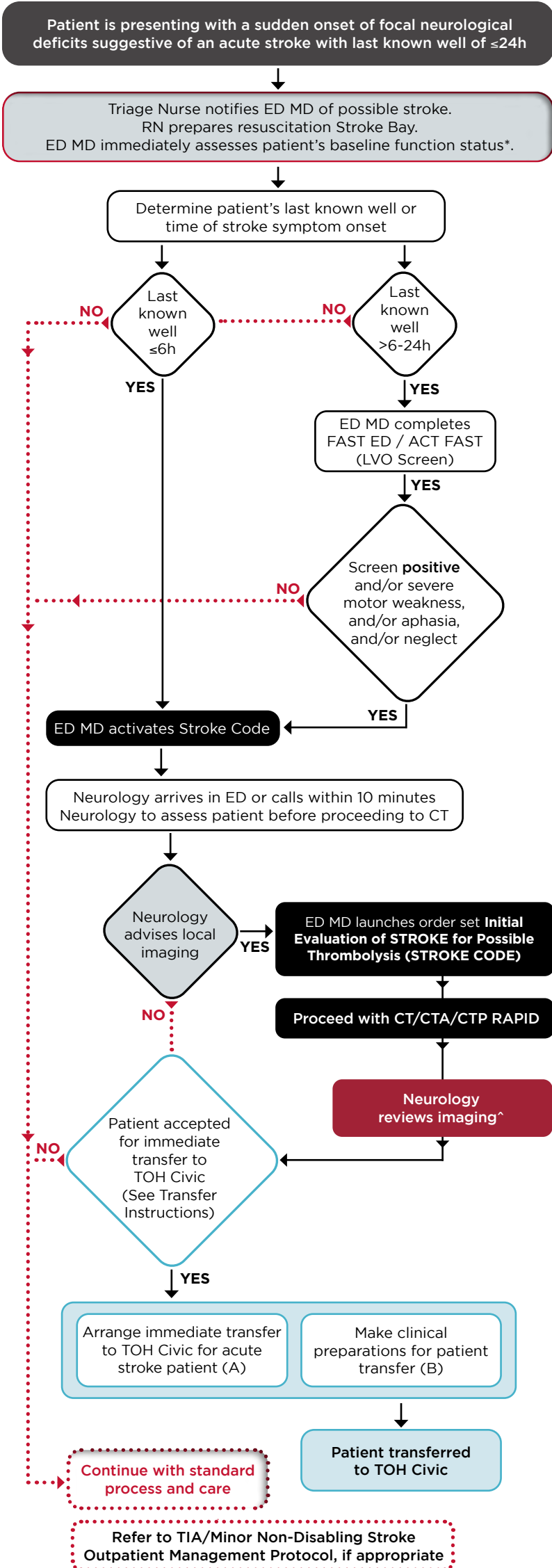**PURPOSE:** To support the Emergency Department and Stroke Team in: 1) the immediate assessment of a patient presenting with possible stroke, (2) the Stroke Code process, and (3) the potential transfer of a patient to TOH Civic for stroke treatment.

Patient is presenting with a sudden onset of focal neurological deficits suggestive of an acute stroke with last known well of ≤24h

Triage Nurse notifies ED MD of possible stroke.
RN prepares resuscitation Stroke Bay.
ED MD immediately assesses patient's baseline function status*.

*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

Determine patient's last known well or time of stroke symptom onset

Last known well ≤6h — **NO**

Last known well >6-24h — **NO**

YES

ED MD completes FAST ED / ACT FAST (LVO Screen)

YES

Screen **positive** and/or severe motor weakness, and/or aphasia, and/or neglect — **NO**

YES

ED MD activates Stroke Code

Neurology arrives in ED or calls within 10 minutes
Neurology to assess patient before proceeding to CT

Neurology advises local imaging — **YES** — ED MD launches order set **Initial Evaluation of STROKE for Possible Thrombolysis (STROKE CODE)**

NO

Proceed with CT/CTA/CTP RAPID

Neurology reviews imaging^

^Thrombolysis Administration
In certain cases, Neurology may override algorithm and proceed with initiation of thrombolysis

Patient accepted for immediate transfer to TOH Civic (See Transfer Instructions) — **NO**

YES

Arrange immediate transfer to TOH Civic for acute stroke patient (A)

Make clinical preparations for patient transfer (B)

Patient transferred to TOH Civic

Continue with standard process and care

Refer to TIA/Minor Non-Disabling Stroke Outpatient Management Protocol, if appropriate

TRANSFER INSTRUCTIONS
Complete activities A & B in parallel to avoid unnecessary delays in patient transfer

A. **Arrange immediate transport to TOH Civic**
   ☐ Notify Paramedic Dispatch that stroke patient is "critical" and "ready now" for transport. Have MT number when you contact Paramedic Dispatch
   ☐ Escort only required if active medication or unstable

B. **Clinical preparation for transfer**
   ☐ Insert two 18-gauge saline locks and don hospital gown