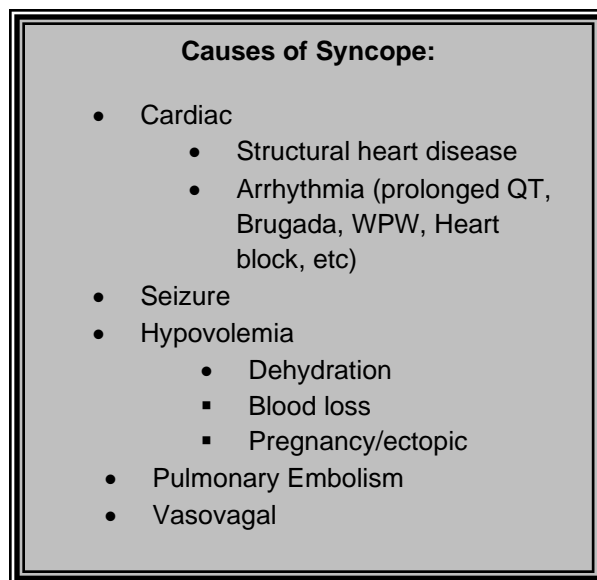
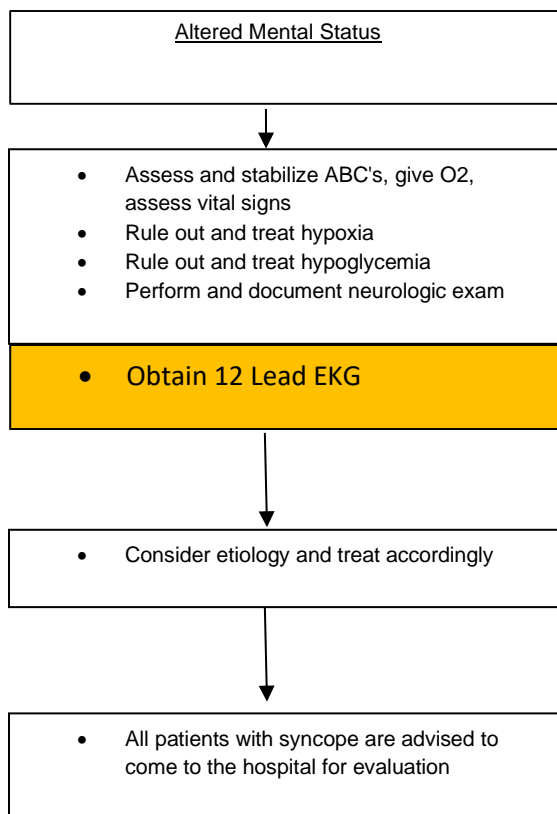


M016 SYNCOPE



General Information:

- Syncope is defined as transient loss of consciousness accompanied by loss of postural tone.
- A syncopal episode will generally be very brief and have a rapid recover with no postictal confusion.
- Convulsive moments called myoclonic jerks may occur with syncope. This is often confused with seizures, but should not be accompanied by a postictal phase, incontinence or tongue biting.
- Elderly syncope has a high risk of morbidity and mortality.

Pediatric Considerations:

- Life threatening causes of pediatric syncope are usually cardiac etiology (arrhythmia, cardiomyopathy, myocarditis, or previously unrecognized structural lesions)
- In addition to the causes listed above, consider the following in the pediatric patient:
 - Seizure
 - Breath holding spells
 - Toxins (marijuana, opioids, cocaine, CO, etc)
 - Heat intolerance
 - BRUE (Brief Resolved Unexplained Events, formerly ALTE)
- Important historical features of pediatric syncope include: color change, seizure activity, incontinence, post-ictal state, and events immediately prior to syncope event.