

HISTORY

HPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Duration symptoms• Speed of onset: Sudden / Gradual• Seizures• Fevers• Head trauma• Meningitic symptoms: Neck stiffness / Photophobia• Recent sedative medications• Drug overdose / Alcohol• Collateral history if possible
PMH	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• COPD: CO₂ retainer• Diabetic: Control / Previous Hypoglycaemia• Epileptic: Recent seizure activity• Stroke risk factors: Stroke or TIA / AF / Hypertension• CKD• Liver disease
DH	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diabetic medications: Insulin / Hypoglycaemia• Epileptic medications: Missed doses• Anticoagulants• Sedatives• Opiates• New medications
SH / FH	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alcohol status: Excessive / Sudden abstinence• Illicit drug use

EXAMINATION

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seizure• Facial drop• Trunk hypotonia: leaning to one side• Limb hypotonia: limb appears flaccid / neglect• Patient cyanosed• Jaundiced
AIRWAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure airway patent
BREATHING	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical Observation: FiO₂ / RR / SaO₂• Auscultation: Wheeze / Crackles / Air entry
CIRCULATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical Observation: HR / BP
DISABILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical Observation: Temp• CBG: Normal / Hypoglycaemic• GCS: >8 / ≤8• Pupils: Normal / Constricted / Dilated / Reactive• Cranial nerve exam: Slurred speech / Facial drop / Visual-spatial neglect• Peripheral neurological exam: Limb weakness / Tone change / Up-going Babinski
EXPOSURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Head injury• Rash: Petechiae• Jaundice• Liver / CO₂ flap• Tongue biting• Urinary incontinence

INVESTIGATIONS

BLOODS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• FBC / U&E / CRP• LFT• Clotting• B12 / Folate / Thyroid	
CBG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Capillary blood glucose: < 4	
ABG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• pH• pO₂ / pCO₂• HCO₃⁻• Lactate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hb• Electrolytes• Glucose
ECG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rate• Rhythm: Arrhythmia / Heart block• Ischaemia: ST segment / T wave inversion / New LBBB	
URINALYSIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blood• Leukocytes• Nitrites	
CXR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consolidation• Effusion• Collapse	
MICRO	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cultures: If Temp > 38• Sputum: MC&S / AFB• Urine culture: If +ve urinalysis	
CT HEAD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stroke• Intracranial Haemorrhage• Skull fracture• Space occupying lesion	DISCUSS WITH SENIOR
LUMBAR PUNCTURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening pressure• Organisms / Culture / PCR• WBC / RBC• Xanthochromia• Protein• Glucose	DISCUSS WITH SENIOR +/- CT HEAD INR <1.4 & Plt > 50

POTENTIAL DIFFERENTIALS

SEIZURES	STROKE / TIA	HYPOGLYCAEMIA
ALCOHOL INTOXICATION / WITHDRAWAL	RESPIRATORY FAILURE HYPOXIA / HYPERCAPNIA	DELIRIUM SEPSIS / INFECTION
HEPATIC ENCEPHALOPATHY	INTRACRANIAL HAEMORRHAGE SAH / SUBDURAL / EXTRADURAL	INTRACRANIAL HYPERTENSION SOL / HYPERTENSION / IDIOPATHIC
ENCEPHALITIS MENINGITIS	OPIOID / SEDATIVE MEDICATION	