

MSH Emergency Department

PIT Ordering Guidelines

Date Created: 5/31/2023

Date Reviewed: 6/15/2023

Reviewed By: Dr. Kristen Kelly and Ilana Spitz, PA-C



1. EKGs

EKGs may be ordered at the discretion of the provider

2. Labs

CBC, Basic Metabolic Panel, Mg, Phos, LFTs, Lipase, bHCG, Urinalysis, Urine pregnancy, Urine Culture, BNP, VBG with Lactate (e.g. GEM 5000), ESR, CRP, Flu/COVID swabs, Throat Swabs, T&S and Troponin can be ordered by the PIT as deemed appropriate

- **No d-dimers** should be ordered from PIT – if d-dimer is indicated, order “Hold Blue Top – PT/PTT/INR and D-dimer” for the primary team so they can add on as appropriate
- Any additional lab orders should be placed by the primary ED Care Team

3. Medications

Symptom relief can and should be ordered by the PIT provider (e.g. Acetaminophen, Ibuprofen, Aspirin, Antiemetics, Antihistamines, Tetanus, Nebulized albuterol/ipratropium, Steroids, IV fluids)

- **Opioids** generally should be avoided but **can be ordered if** 1) the patient has a pain management plan in Epic such as sickle cell patients or 2) patient would benefit from opioid pain medication given concern by PIT provider (eg., surgical abdomen, IBD flare, suspected fracture/dislocation)
- **Antibiotics** should be given if the patient is placed on the **sepsis pathway** and ordered through the “Adult Sepsis” Order Set along with blood cultures and the appropriate fluids. Communicate concern via Epic secure chat to primary attending (and senior resident, if applicable).

4. Imaging

- **CXR** can be ordered by PIT for chest pain or respiratory complaints, unless there is high suspicion for ACS and then CXR should be deferred until after the first HS troponin results
- Extremity x-rays can be ordered for patients who present with injury and/or acute pain
- Head CT, CT C-spine and CT facial bones for patients with obvious head trauma or reported head trauma on aspirin (If on anticoagulation- meets RESUS criteria).
 - Avoid ordering for nonspecific complaints (e.g., dizziness or headache)
- **Ultrasounds** for first trimester vaginal bleeding, suspected cholecystitis or high clinical suspicion for DVT (eg., avoid in nonspecific “leg pain”)
- **No MRIs** should be ordered from PIT
- All other imaging should be ordered by the primary ED Care Team

5. Consults

If the PIT provider is able, consults may be called in order to help expedite patient care for patients that are called in by a specialty service or with obvious specialty care need.

***** FOR PATIENTS WITH CONCERNING STORIES OR PRESENTATIONS THAT NEED MORE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION, PLEASE VERBALIZE TO THE PRIMARY TEAM TO PRIORITIZE SEEING THE PATIENT MORE URGENTLY**