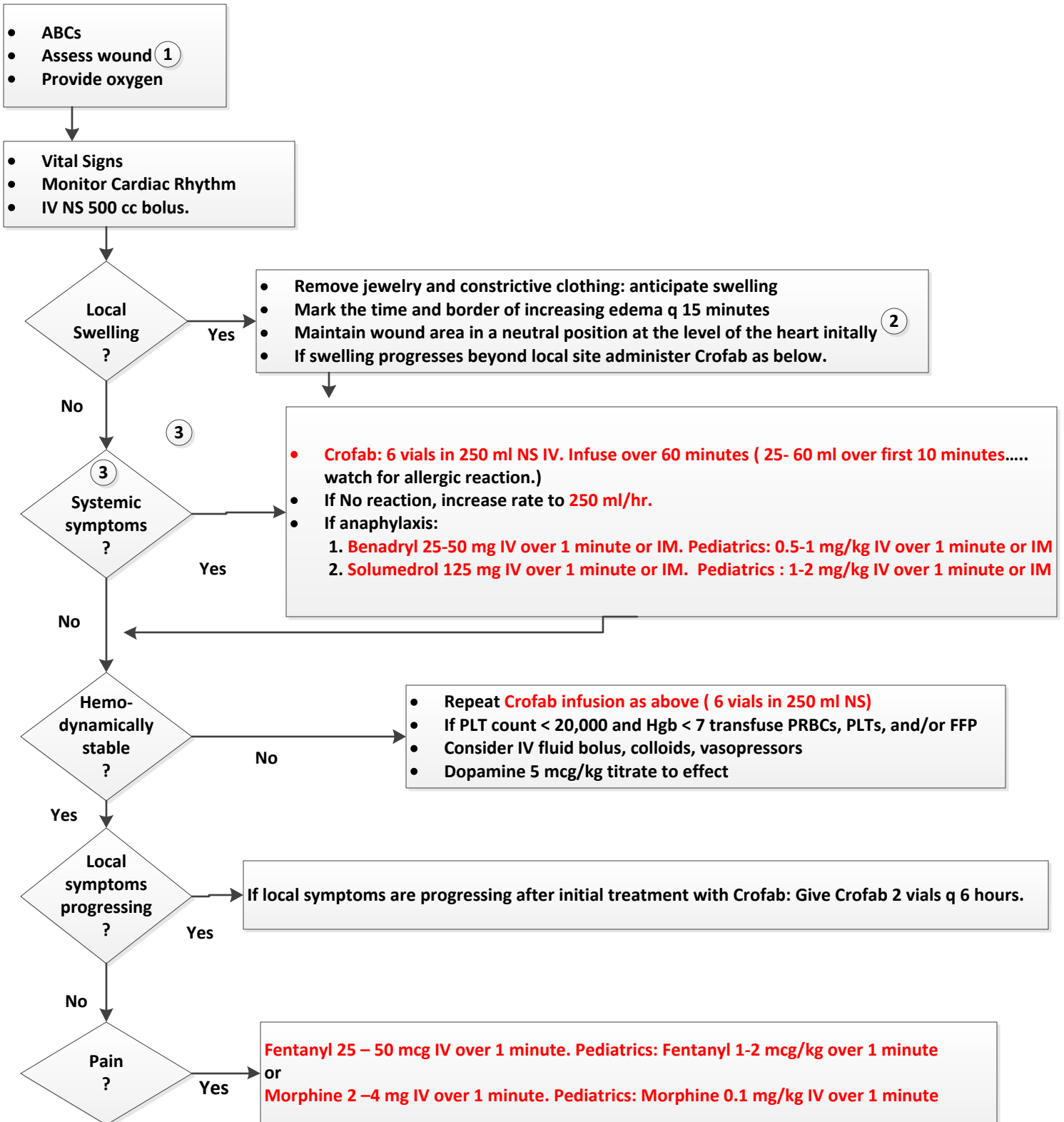


Snakebite Protocol



1. Often can identify two fang marks 1-3 centimeters apart. Note the number of bite sites. Clean sites to remove residual venom. Observe for swelling, erythema, ecchymosis near the bite site.

2. Placing the extremity below the level of the heart may lead to increased tissue damage in some patients but may be appropriate in patients who have systemic effects of envenomation. In contrast, elevation of a swollen extremity to prevent acute swelling in patients without systemic symptoms may subsequently increase systemic venom absorption . (may be acceptable if the time to definitive care, including anti-venom administration is short.)

3. Systemic symptoms may include: nausea, dizziness, metallic taste and fasciculations.

revised 1/2013