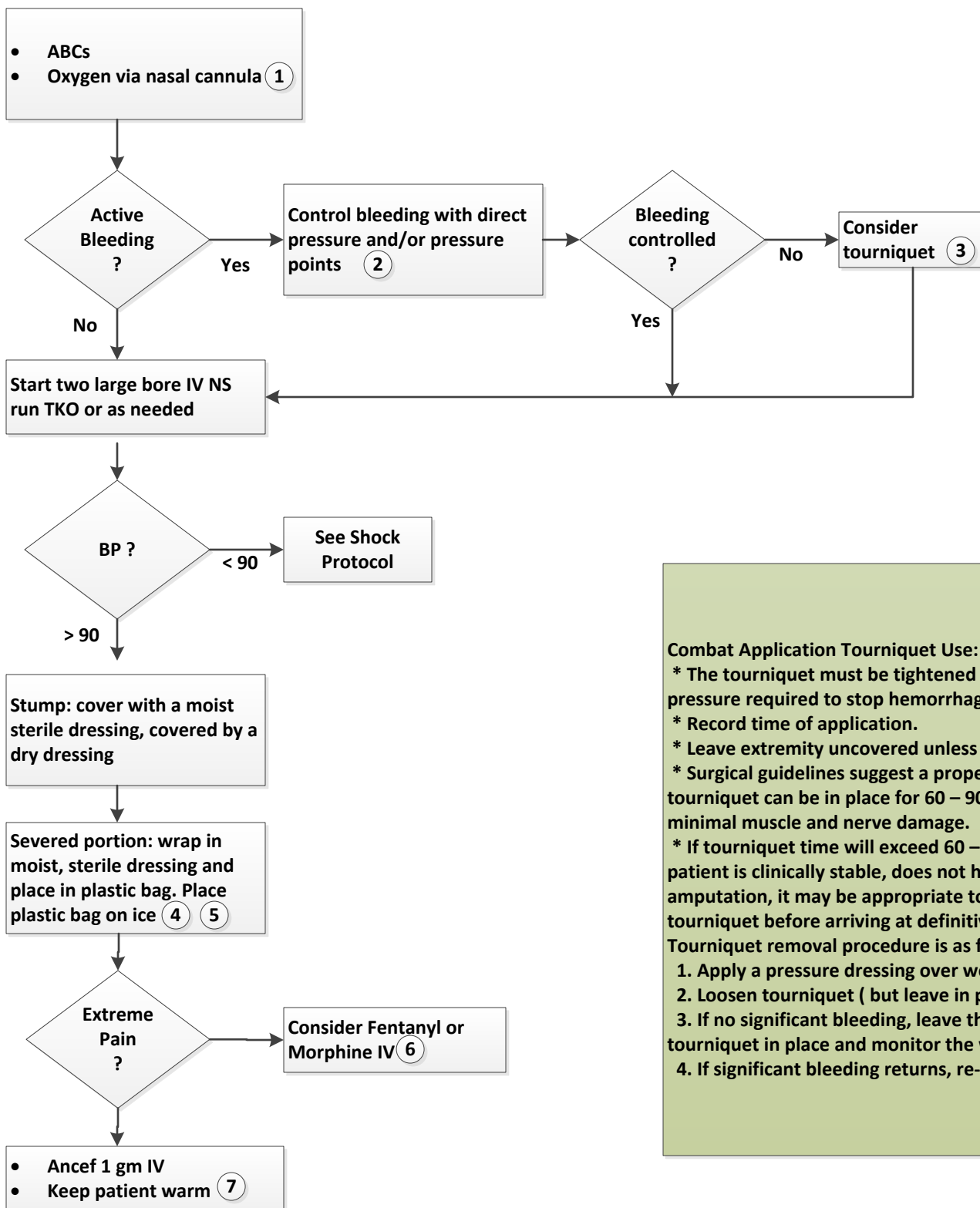


# Amputation



## Combat Application Tourniquet Use:

- \* The tourniquet must be tightened only to the pressure required to stop hemorrhage.
  - \* Record time of application.
  - \* Leave extremity uncovered unless risk of cold injury.
  - \* Surgical guidelines suggest a properly applied tourniquet can be in place for 60 – 90 minutes with minimal muscle and nerve damage.
  - \* If tourniquet time will exceed 60 – 90 minutes, the patient is clinically stable, does not have a complete amputation, it may be appropriate to loosen the tourniquet before arriving at definitive treatment.
- Tourniquet removal procedure is as follows:
1. Apply a pressure dressing over wound.
  2. Loosen tourniquet ( but leave in place)
  3. If no significant bleeding, leave the loosened tourniquet in place and monitor the wound.
  4. If significant bleeding returns, re-apply tourniquet.

1. Administer higher concentrations if needed. Use a NRM if active bleeding is present or if the original blood loss was significant.
2. Use pressure point proximal to site if direct pressure does not control the bleeding
3. A tourniquet may be indicated
4. Keep severed portion moist. Do not allow to soak in a solution.
5. If transport is delayed or otherwise extensive (entrapped patient, etc) consider transporting severed part before patient, to allow early examination and surgical preparation for reimplantation.
6. May cause hypotension
7. History: note time of amputation, mechanism involved, current medications.