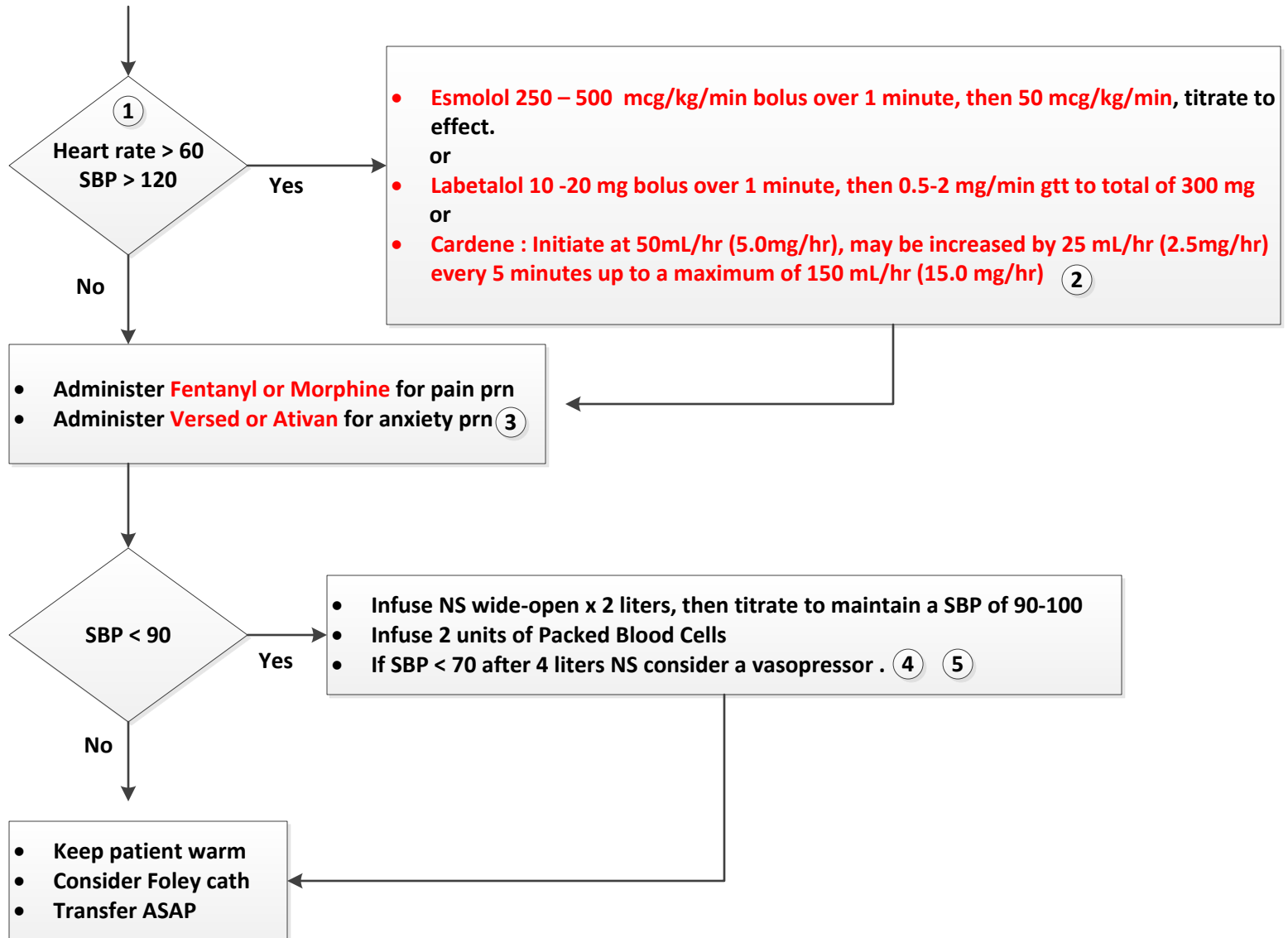


Aortic Aneurysm/ Dissection

- ABCs
- Oxygen per nc
- Get EKG (R/o MI)
- Two large bore IV's
- BP in both arms
- Bilateral radial & Femoral pulses

- Target Map: 65-75
- Target Heart rate: 50- 60
- Target SBP: 100- 120



1. For blood pressure control, initial treatment consists of an IV beta blocker to reduce the heart rate below 60 bpm; the associated fall in both blood pressure and the rate will minimize aortic wall stress. **Esmolol** has advantages in the acute setting, due to its short half-life and ability to titrate to effect.
2. **Cardene** can be used concurrently with a beta blocker
3. Medicating for pain and anxiety will also help with blood pressure and rate control by reducing the sympathetic drive.
4. Vasopressors of choice are **Levophed** and **NeoSyneprine** because of their limited shear forces.
5. Indications for vascular surgical intervention included rupture, aortic expansion (aortic diameter > 5 cm), retrograde dissection into the ascending aorta, malperfusion, (visceral, peripheral) and intractable pain despite optimal medical management.