

EMERGENCY CENTER STANDING ORDERS

LYNDON B. JOHNSON GENERAL HOSPITAL

VERSION 1.2
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Preliminary test ordering for **ALL ED PATIENTS** by triage or primary RN must follow these guidelines:

1. For critical patients (major trauma, s/p cardiac arrest, severe hypotension, respiratory distress, etc.), send **CBC, BMP, urine, urine pregnancy test** (if patient has child-bearing potential), type and screen (trauma patients only).
2. For all other, non-critical patients, send a test **ONLY IF CLINICALLY INDICATED AND** the patient meets the guidelines below:

CBC

- Temp ≥ 38.0 for pts < 2 mo or ≥ 38.5 for pts > 65 yr of age (also DRAW AND HOLD 2 sets of blood cultures)
- Moderate to severe bleeding
- Likely to be neutropenic

BMP (all samples should have glucometer checked PRIOR to sending)

- Severe dehydration
- Diabetic or on diuretics
- Prolonged vomiting or diarrhea

URINE

- Suspected renal colic
- Abdominal Pain
- Dysuria
- Unexplained fever in pts ≤ 5 yrs

ICON (urine pregnancy testing)

- All women of child-bearing years (14-50) with complaints of abdominal pain or dysuria UNLESS s/p hysterectomy

ANKLE XRAYS

- Only when OTTAWA ANKLE RULES are positive

ALL OTHER EXTREMITY INJURIES

- Only when point-tenderness and/or deformity exist after trauma

EKG

- Males > 25 or females > 35 with chest pain
- ANYONE with cocaine-associated chest pain
- Complaint of dysrhythmia or palpitations
- Anyone with "cardiac symptoms"
- Irregular pulse or rhythm noted on exam
- Recent syncope

ETOH

- Altered mental status

GLUCOSE/GLUCOMETER

- All diabetic patients
- All patients with altered mental status (including intoxicated)
- All seizure patients

ANTICONVULSANT LEVELS

- Patient presenting with recurrent seizure on medications
- Altered mental status with known seizure disorder

TOXICOLOGY

- Tylenol, aspirin, and tricyclic antidepressant levels for all overdoses/ingestions
- Drug screen (urine) for patients with altered mental status that isn't explained in obvious fashion (e.g., ethanol intoxication)
- Specific tests only for those where level will impact management (e.g., lithium, iron, digoxin)

SPUTUM CULTURE

- Known pneumonia
- High risk for TB
- Do not induce sputum in ED
- Send only if purulent appearing

CHEST X-RAY (AP portable if triage category 1 or 2, otherwise PA and lateral)

- Fever $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$ (100.4°F) AND
 - Cough OR
 - Chest pain OR
 - Shortness of Breath
- Chest pain
- Upper abdominal pain

CT SCAN OF THE BRAIN WITHOUT CONTRAST (Nurse shall notify a qualified medical provider for initial interpretation when the study is complete.)

- History of head trauma AND
 - Loss of consciousness
 - Amnesic to Event/Deficits in Short Term Memory
 - Headache
 - Nausea or Vomiting
 - Drug or Alcohol Intoxication
 - Seizure
 - Age > 60 years

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