

Hostile/Violent Patient

(Updated 12-11-19)

Signs and Symptoms:

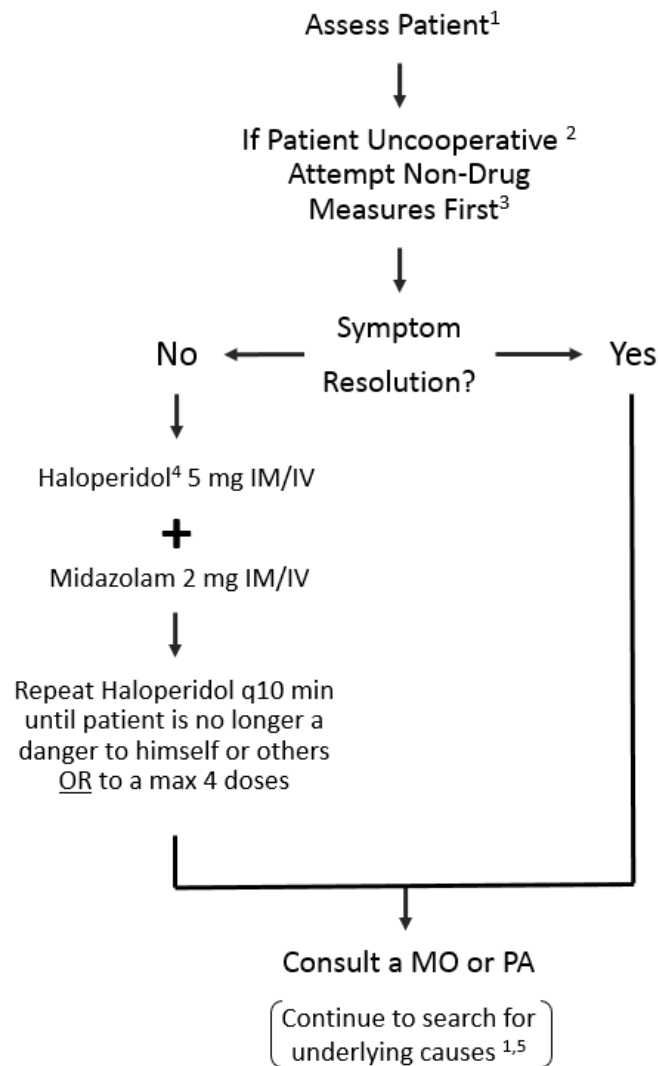
1. An uncontrollable adult patient threatening to harm him/herself, others or otherwise jeopardizing safety.

Contraindications:

1. Allergy to an indicated medication.

Management:

1. Treat Hostile/Violent patients IAW the below figure:



Disposition:

1. Ensure patient is seen by a MO or PA. Evacuation may be necessary.

Notes:

1. Rule out underlying causes that may include tension pneumothorax, head injury, hypoglycemia, hypotension, drug/alcohol problems, postictal confusion, and hypoxia.
2. Dialogue is always the first approach to controlling a hostile/violent patient. If dialogue fails, and the patient's behavior continues to pose a serious threat to her/himself, Med Tech, or to continued safe operation of evacuation, then physical restraint, and ultimately chemical restraint, is justified.
3. Safety, seclusion, low stimulation environment
4. Consider high likelihood of dystonic reaction in large muscular individuals by having Diphenhydramine 50mg IM/IV prepared.
5. Never leave a previously hostile/violent patient alone.