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**CMC Emergency Department**

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**Management of Non-Fatal Strangulation Patients**

**Purpose:** To outline the process for management of non-fatal strangulation patients in the setting of intimate partner violence (IPV).

**Date Effective:** 5/20/2022

**Situation:** Due to the worldwide contrast shortage, evaluation of the non-fatal strangulation patient will be modified aligning with the system wide contrast preservation strategy.

**Definitions:** IPV= Intimate Partner Violence

**Inclusion Criteria:**

- All patients (including pediatric patients) who are the victims of non-fatal strangulation within the previous 2 weeks
- Perpetrator is a current or previous intimate partner

**Process:**

- **Diagnosis:** Establish the diagnosis of non-fatal strangulation in the setting of intimate partner violence and ensure all inclusion criteria are met.
- **Initial Management:**
  - **Contact DVHP:** Secure chat at CMC Domestic Violence Healthcare Project DVHP AND
  - **Contact SANE:** Secure chat at Metro SANE Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner for a forensic medical examination
- **Imaging**
  - Patients presenting with stroke symptoms and/or signs:
    - Page Code Stroke if applicable and follow FANG-D Negative/Positive protocols
    - Non-Code Stroke:
      - CT Non-contrast Brain
      - MR Stroke protocol
  - Patients who are currently asymptomatic or with minimal symptoms but had a significant strangulation event:
    - US Carotid Limited Left AND Right
  - Patients presenting with concern for soft tissue neck injury
    - Patient stridulous or with overt signs of soft tissue injury on exam:
      - CT Soft Tissue Neck with contrast AND
      - CTA Neck with contrast
    - Patient with mild/minimal symptoms
      - MRA Neck W and WO Contrast

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