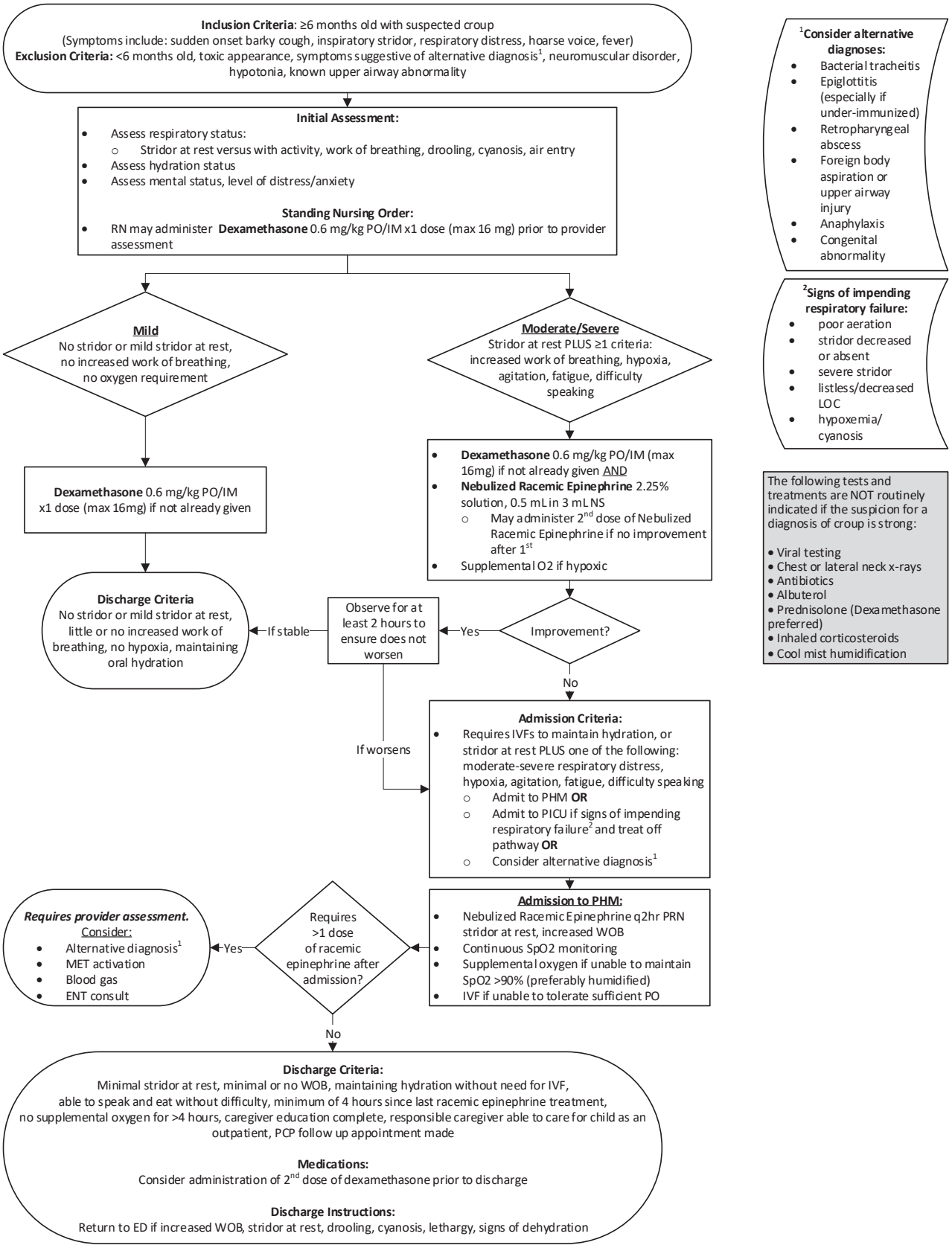
CLINICAL PATHWAY:
Croup

THIS PATHWAY SERVES AS A GUIDE AND DOES NOT REPLACE CLINICAL JUDGMENT.



[1]Consider alternative diagnoses:
- Bacterial tracheitis
- Epiglottitis (especially if under-immunized)
- Retropharyngeal abscess
- Foreign body aspiration or upper airway injury
- Anaphylaxis
- Congenital abnormality

[2]Signs of impending respiratory failure:
- poor aeration
- stridor decreased or absent
- severe stridor
- listless/decreased LOC
- hypoxemia/ cyanosis

The following tests and treatments are NOT routinely indicated if the suspicion for a diagnosis of croup is strong:

- Viral testing
- Chest or lateral neck x-rays
- Antibiotics
- Albuterol
- Prednisolone (Dexamethasone preferred)
- Inhaled corticosteroids
- Cool mist humidification

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