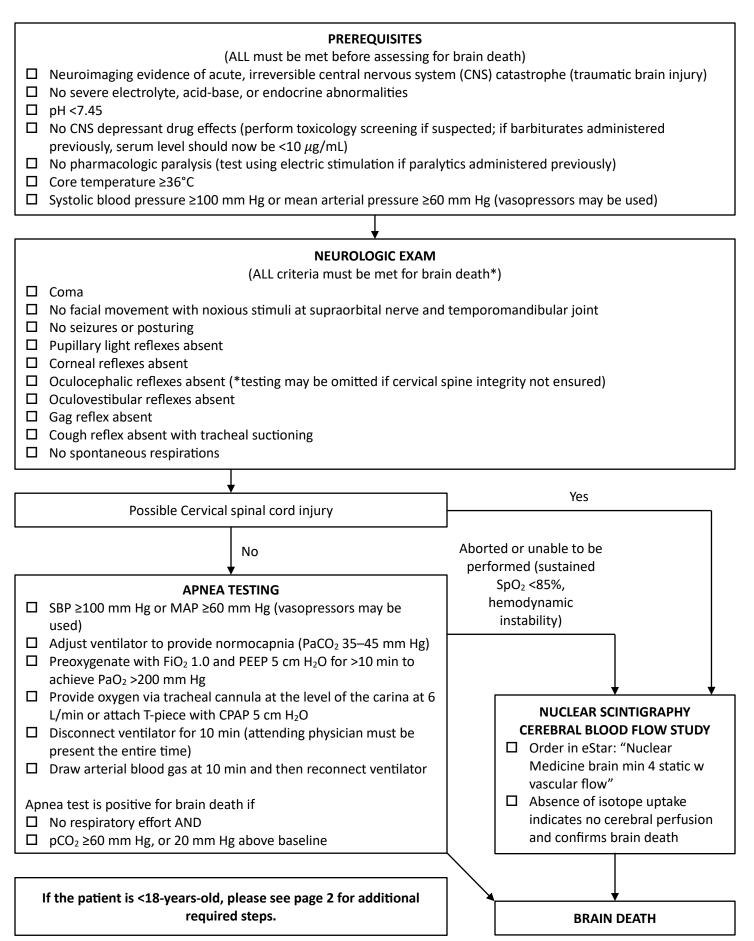
Determining Brain Death



PEDIATRIC PATIENTS

For patients <18-years-old, brain death may be declared via either of the following routes.

- 1. If the neurologic exam and apnea test are consistent with brain death (as in the algorithm on page 1), a second neurologic exam and apnea test must be performed at least 12 hours later. This second exam/test should be conducted by a different attending physician.
- 2. If apnea testing cannot be completed, nuclear scintigraphy may be performed.

TRAUMA TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES UPON BRAIN DEATH

- □ Notify T1 attending physician.
- □ Notify next-of-kin.
- □ Notify Tennessee Donor Services (800-969-4438).
- □ Complete Brain Death Note in eStar, which must be cosigned by the attending.
- □ Call Davidson County Medical Examiner's Office (615-743-1800 or 800-216-0107).
- □ Complete Report of Death and Death Summary in eStar.

REFERENCES

- Greer DM, Shemie SD, Lewis A, Torrance S, Varelas P, Goldenberg FD, Bernat JL, Souter M, Topcuoglu MA, Alexandrov AW, et al. Determination of brain death/death by neurologic criteria: The World Brain Death Project. *JAMA* 2020;324(11):1078–97.
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- Wijdicks EF, Varelas PN, Gronseth GS, Greer DM; American Academy of Neurology. Evidence-based guideline update: determining brain death in adults: report of the Quality Standards Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology. *Neurology* 2010;74(23):1911–8.

Last updated on June 28, 2023 Joshua J. Sumislawski, MD Caroline T. Banes, DNP, APRN, ACNP-BC Allan B. Peetz, MD, MPH