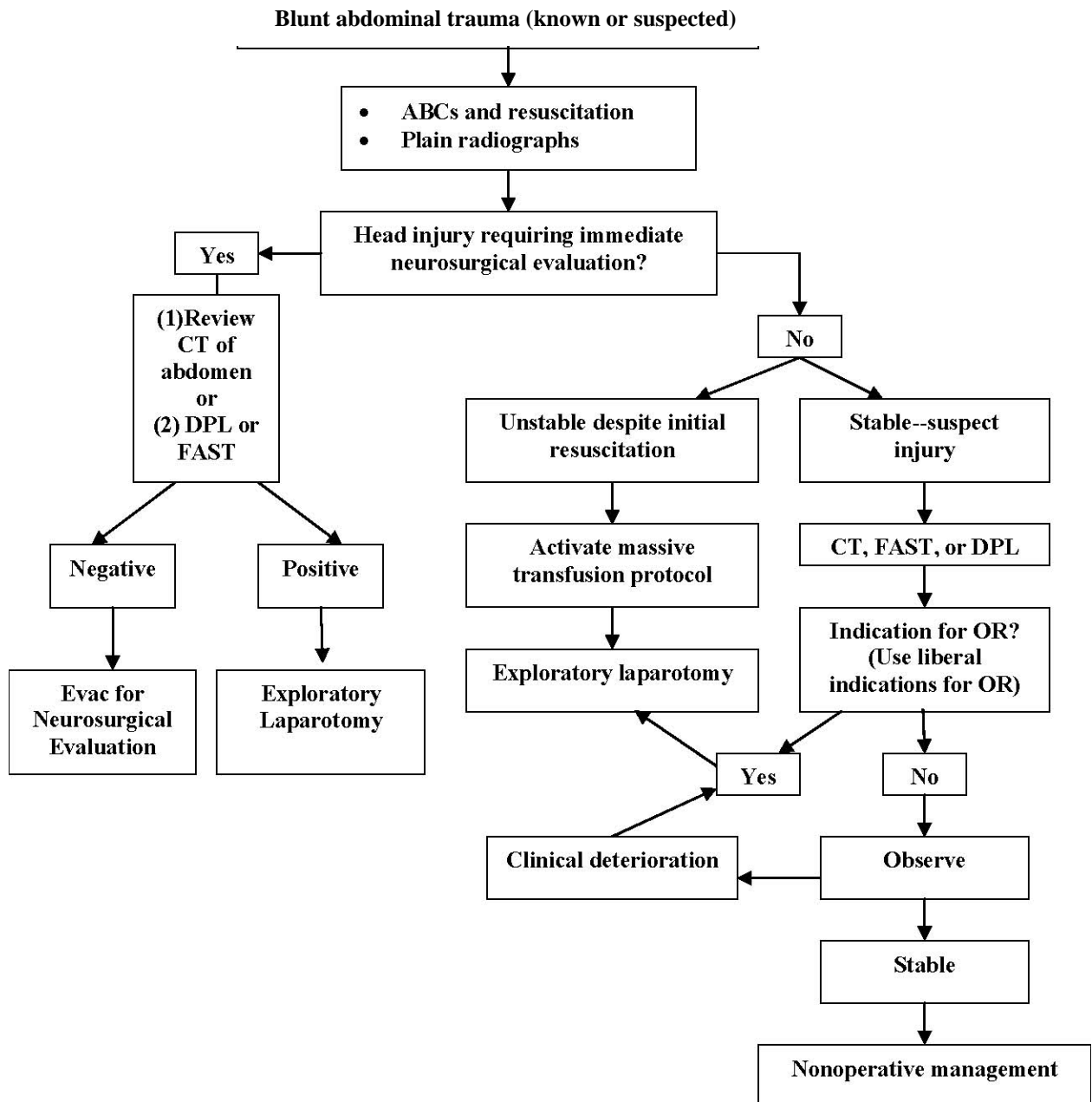


JTTS CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES FOR BLUNT ABDOMINAL TRAUMA



Guidelines apply for Level II+ and Level III with surgical capability

FAST exam reliability is very operator dependent. Providers who rely on FAST exam are to be mindful of risk of false negative exam. Only providers with personal experience of accurate findings should rely on the FAST exam as a screening tool for hemoperitoneum. A negative FAST exam in a stable patient should be confirmed by a CT scan. Consider a CT scan in a stable patient with a positive FAST exam prior to laparotomy to better define intraabdominal and retroperitoneal injuries.