**Figure 1.Triage Emergency Method Algorithm (TEM)**

**Pain Score Numeric Rate Score (NRS):**

NRS=10 > Red; NRS= 8-9>Yellow;NRS=4-7>Green;NRS ≤3 >White

**STEP 1**

None resources are immediately (within 60 minutes) needed?

(with normal exam and function)

None One or Many

Requires immediate life-saving intervention?

and

Severe modification of vital signs (SBP<80;50<HR>150; 10<RR>30; SaO2 **≤**88% or <92% for child**;** GCS ≤13)

or

Very high risk situation (Table 1)? Or Pain NRS=10

yes

NO

High risk situation (Table 1)? Or

confused/lethargic/disoriented? Or

Vital signs modified as in Box 1 or NRS =8-9

NO

yes

**2 or**

**Yellow**

**STEP 2**

**STEP 3**

**1 or**

**Red**

**White**

yes

BOX 1

Vital signs modified

<3m >180 >50 NRS=8-9

3m-3y >160 >40 SaO2=88-90%

3-8y >140 >30 Child SaO2<96%

> 8 y 135-150 20-30 80- 90=SBP>200

HR RR

HR=heart rate; RR=respiratory rate; y=years

m=months; SaO2=O2 saturation; SBP=systolic blood pressure arteriosa sistol

**2**

**Or**

**Yellow**

**(Urgent: intervention within 20 min, stretcher in pre-visit room)**

**4**

**Or**

**White**

**(non urgent: waiting room)**

NO

**3**

**Or**

**Green**

**(Less-urgent: intervention within 60 min, in waiting room**

Table 1.Triage Emergency Method (TEM) Patient’s chief complaints

**CODE SYMPTOM AND SITUATION GUIDE**

**RED Very high risk situations**

Severe acute pain (VAS=9-10), shock, A.M.I. arrhythmia:

actual chest pain with syncope and/or arrhythmia and/or dyspnea.

Aphasia and/or numbness <3 h. Dyspnea with wheeze or

laryngospasm. Major trauma: penetrating injury, severe facial

trauma or cranial trauma with GCS ≤ 14, thoracic trauma with volet

or dyspnea, abdominal trauma with SBP ≤90 mmHg, rachis trauma

with sensitive-motor deficit, amputation of long bones, open fractures

of long bones, 2nd or 3rd degree skin burns (>30% adult or

>20% babies), eyes or airway burns, RTS ≤ 10. Multiple trauma

with major mechanisms (fall from 5 meters; ejection outside a vehicle;

or pedestrian run down; age < 5 years. Severe intoxication (quantity or

kind of substance or substance unknown) with dysphonia, dysphagia,

chest or abdominal pain. Status epilepticus. Headache with altered level

of consciousness or meningism, seizures or syncope. Hematemesis or

other severe haemorrhage in action. Severe allergic reactions with dyspnea,

dysphonia or severe hypotension. Emergency delivery; eclampsia, severe

vaginal bleeding. *Children:* severe dehydration, headache with GCS ≤14

or lethargy or hypotonia, abuse.

**YELLOW High risk situations**

*Cardiac*: chest pain ≤6 h, syncope, arrhythmia, limbs ischemia,

hypertension crisis (SBP >200 mmHg), unstable hypotension

(SBP<100mmHg).

*Pneumology:* mild dyspnea (SaO2 88-92%).

*Abdomen:* acute abdominal pain, vomit and diarrhea with dehydration,

hypovolemia (hypotension-tachycardia), hematemesis, melena,

severe rectal bleeding in action.

*Neurology*: headache or with SBP > 200 mmHg, headache after

cranial trauma if anticoagulants. Consciousness alterations (agitation,

drowsiness, acute confusion), GCS 8-14, aphasia or sensitive-motor

deficit <3 h, convulsions. Alcohol or drug abuse. Severe dizziness/vertigo

or with headache or motor deficit.Moderate pain (VAS=7-8). Minor

intoxication, severe allergic reactions (extensive nettle rash, dysphonia,

angioedema, multiple hymenoptera stings in history of anaphylaxis).

*Infections:* fever with lethargy, severe infection (rash or purpura),

temperature >39°, fever in immunodeficiency. Trauma: concussive

cranial trauma or anticoagulants, long bones, dislocation, bone deformation,

open fractures, severe lacerations, crush syndrome, limb trauma without pulse,

multiple trauma, major dynamic. Acute lumbar pain (if age > 40yrs or in

case of hypertension); severe glycemic failure in diabetes

(40mg/dL < glycemia >300mg/dL); sexual assault, severe or painful

haemorrhage or mild but persistent in anticoagulants or hypertension crisis.

Renal-genitourinary: scrotum pain, anuria or oliguria.

*Gynaecology and obstetrics*: vaginal bleeding in the elderly or

pregnancy with pain; delivery with active contractions <5 min;

pre-eclampsia; pelvic pain. Eye injury with alkali or acid, visual deficit;

psychiatric symptoms in patient suffering from mental illness. Severe

or mild haemorrhage (any cause)

*Child:* Newborn < 3 months; moderate dehydration, severe vomiting

or diarrhea. Recent trauma <12 h.; neonatal crying, recent convulsion

VAS, Visual analogic scale; A.M.I., acute myocardial ischemia; GCS, Glasgow coma score; SBP, systolic blood pressure ;RTS, revised trauma score; SaO2 (%), percentage of Oxygen Saturation