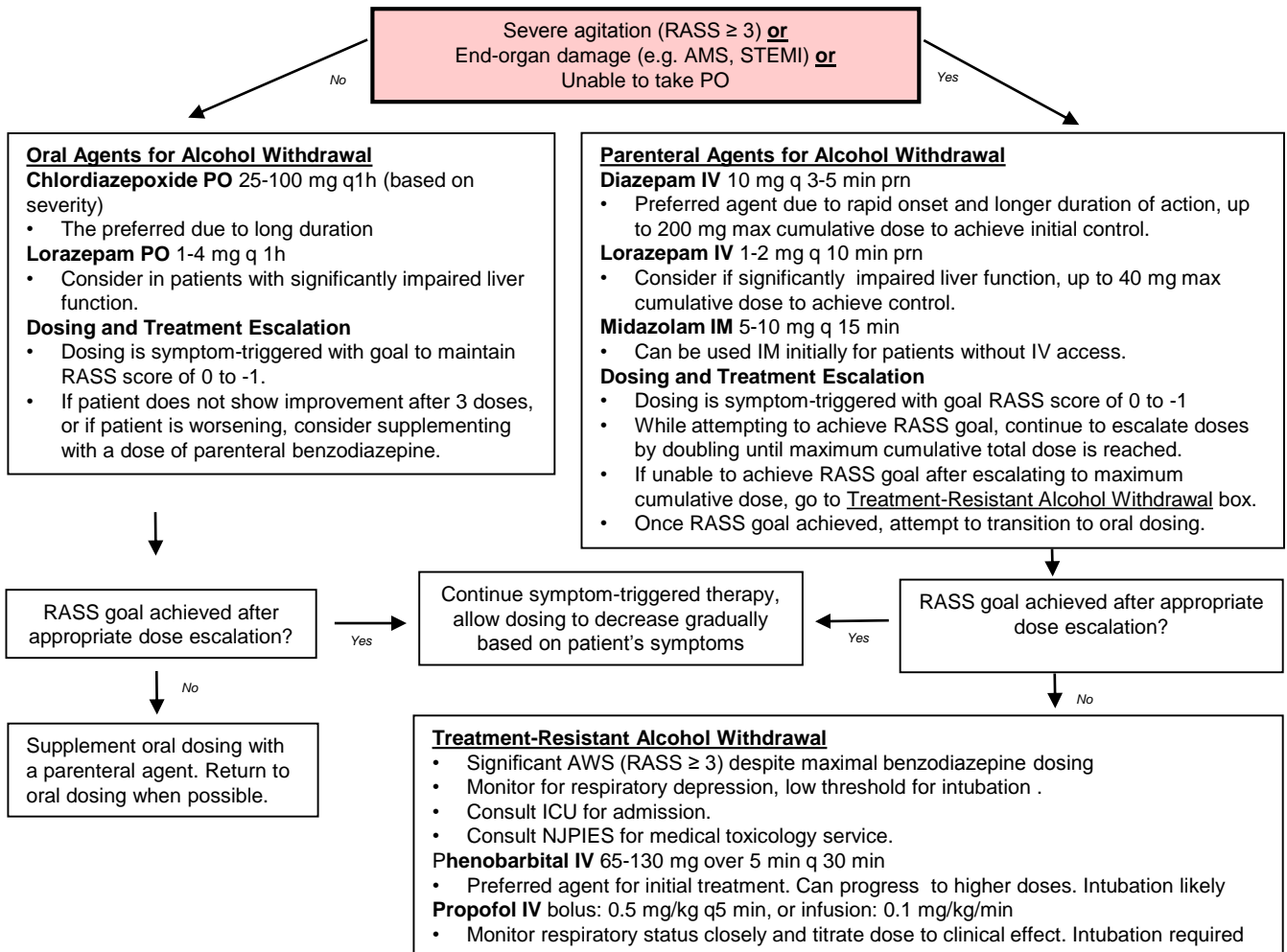




Alcohol Withdrawal Treatment Algorithm

Richmond Agitation Sedation Scale (RASS)		
Score	Term	Description
+4	Combative	Overtly combative, violent, immediate danger to staff
+3	Very agitated	Pulls or removes tube(s) or catheter(s); aggressive
+2	Agitated	Frequent non-purposeful movement, fights ventilator
+1	Restless	Anxious, apprehensive, but movements not aggressive
0	Alert and calm	Alert and calm
-1	Drowsy	Not fully alert, but has sustained awakening (eye-opening/eye contact) to voice (>10 sec)
-2	Light sedation	Briefly awakens with eye contact to voice (<10 sec)
-3	Moderate sedation	Movement or eye opening to voice (but no eye contact)
-4	Deep sedation	No response to voice, but movement or eye opening to physical stimulation
-5	Unarousable	No response to voice or physical stimulation



Characteristics of Benzodiazepines					
	Chlordiazepoxide PO	Diazepam IV	Lorazepam PO	Lorazepam IV	Midazolam IM
Equipotent Dose	50 mg	10 mg	1.5 mg	1 mg	3 mg
Onset	20 min	1-3 min	30 min	5-10 min	15 min
Peak	1-2 hrs	5-10 min	1-2 hr	30 min	30 min
Duration	~24 hrs	12-24 hrs	4-8 hrs	2-6 hrs	2-4 hrs

Guidelines are intended to be flexible. They serve as recommendations, not rigid criteria. Guidelines should be followed in most cases, but depending on the patient, setting, circumstances or factors, guidelines can and should be tailored to fit individual needs.