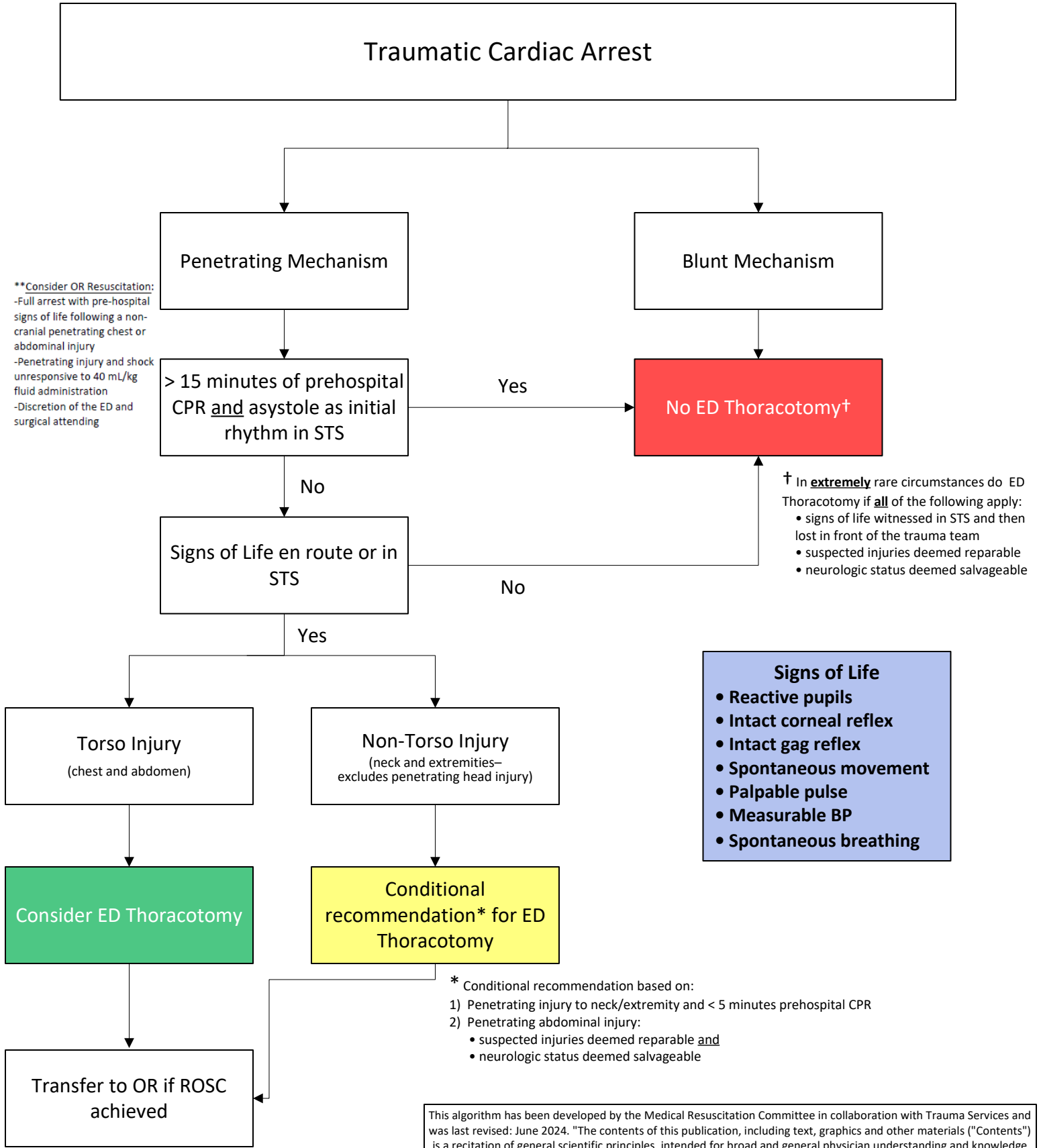


ED Thoracotomy Decision Aid[‡]

[‡] Surgery fellow or attending is ultimately responsible for final decision



****Consider OR Resuscitation:**
 -Full arrest with pre-hospital signs of life following a non-cranial penetrating chest or abdominal injury
 -Penetrating injury and shock unresponsive to 40 mL/kg fluid administration
 -Discretion of the ED and surgical attending

† In **extremely** rare circumstances do ED Thoracotomy if **all** of the following apply:
 • signs of life witnessed in STS and then lost in front of the trauma team
 • suspected injuries deemed reparable
 • neurologic status deemed salvageable

- Signs of Life**
- Reactive pupils
 - Intact corneal reflex
 - Intact gag reflex
 - Spontaneous movement
 - Palpable pulse
 - Measurable BP
 - Spontaneous breathing

*** Conditional recommendation based on:**
 1) Penetrating injury to neck/extremity and < 5 minutes prehospital CPR
 2) Penetrating abdominal injury:
 • suspected injuries deemed reparable and
 • neurologic status deemed salvageable

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