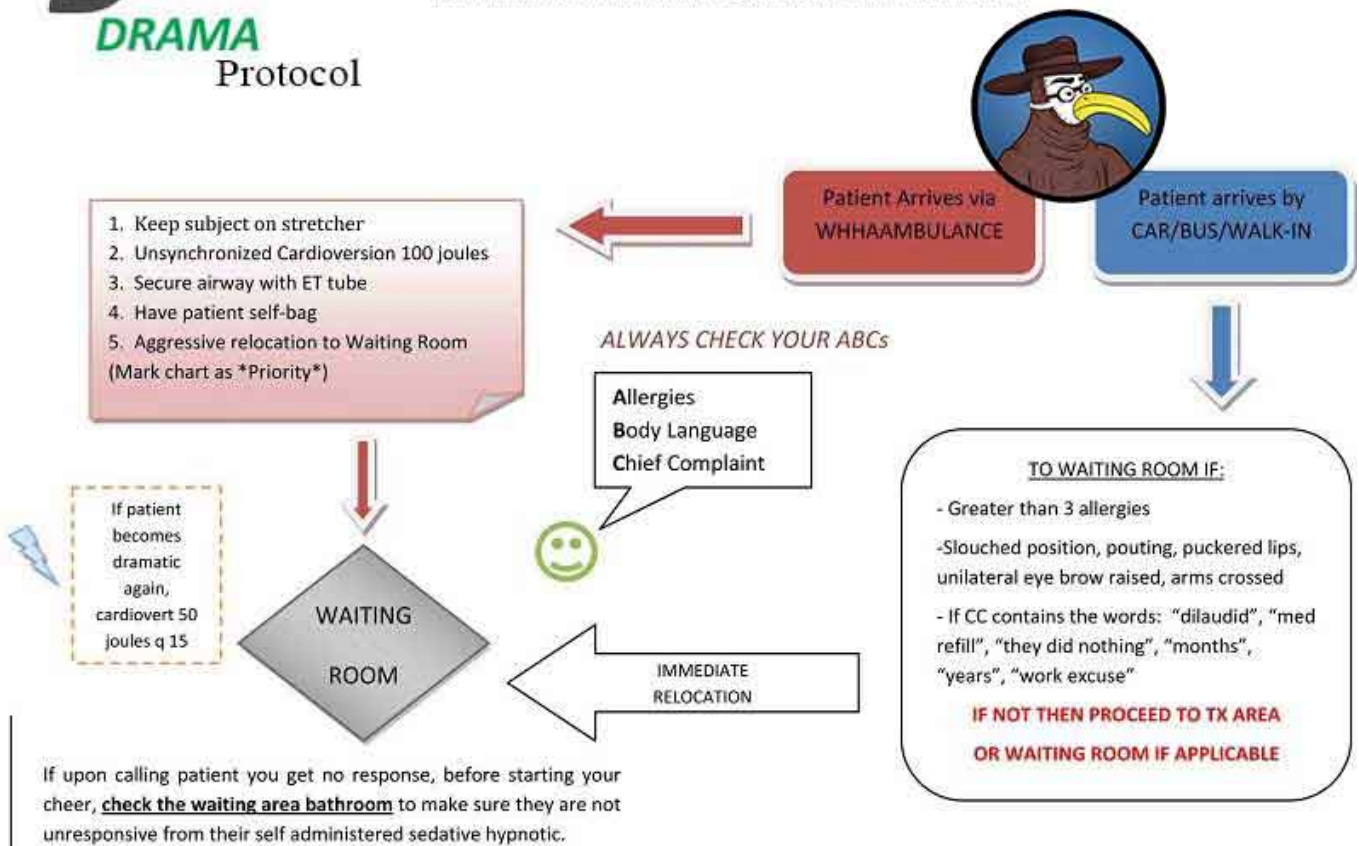


Level 1 Drama Algorithm for the Emergency Department

We have all been there when a Level 1 Drama call comes through the doors. New evidence has led to the creation of a Level 1 Drama Algorithm which was recently published in the *Journal of Emergency Medicine*. The most important part of the [algorithm](#) is a door to back out through the door time of 5 minutes. Below is the proposed Drama Protocol:

D DRAMA Protocol

PROPOSED TRIAGING PROTOCOL FOR THE ACUTELY DRAMATIC PATIENT IN THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT.



LEVELS OF DRAMA ALERTNESS

LEVEL IIIB: Bi-ocular teardrop production with teardrop running greater than 3cm below the palpebral fissure (Must be documented in triage sheet)

LEVEL IIIA: Prior criteria with the addition of moaning and arm flaring no less than 30 degrees from horizontal plane

LEVEL IIB: All prior criteria plus, high pitch moaning, arm flaring greater than 30 degrees from horizontal plane; dark visible bra under very light shirt (for women) / lack of underwear and mismatching socks (for men)

LEVEL IIA: All prior criteria plus, inconsolability, sits on the floor, refusing to move, yells nurse/doctor > 4 times within 60 seconds, reaches into pockets with prior discharge instructions from yesterday or same day.

LEVEL IB: Any patient that willfully lies on the floor while having a fit, full 360 degrees of body twisting on stretcher or floor, takes off wig, asks for resident or attending by name.

LEVEL IA: All prior criteria plus asks for Gatorade/sandwich, requires more than 2 nurses and techs for bargaining, charges out of the tx area with gown undone, flailing arms and legs on the ground with pelvic thrusting yelling they are seizing and demanding Demerol to stop their seizure.

All Level 1 Dramas must be paged out

- Attending, Charge nurse, Nurse Manager, Pharmacy, senior tech must be present.
- Patient must be aggressively moved to the waiting room within 5 minutes of paging a DRAMA alert.