



**General Medicine:
SYNCOPE
Practice Guideline**

Patient Care Goals:

1. Stratify the severity of risk causing the syncope event.
2. Determine the most appropriate level of EMS transport.
3. Understand many conditions cause syncope, some of which are life-threatening. Apply all appropriate Milwaukee County Standards of Care to your treatment.

Patient Presentation:

1. Brief loss of consciousness due to a temporary drop of blood flow to the brain.
2. *Ischemic or QTc concerning ECG (ischemia - contiguous ST elevation and/or depression, prolonged QTc>470 ms)
3. ^hEvidence of bleeding (e.g. hematemesis, melena, pale tongue/ conjunctiva)

Quality Improvement:
Key documentation elements include medical decision-making elements supporting level of ambulance transport, 12-lead ECG and blood glucose level.

Patient Safety Considerations
Routine use of lights and sirens is not recommended during transport unless hemodynamically unstable.

