

CODE RUPTURE

Expedited Treatment Protocol for Ruptured Abdominal Aortic Aneurysms

Carolinas Medical Center is excited to announce the activation of a new protocol to expedite care for patients diagnosed with ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysms (rAAA). Similar to Code STEMI, Stroke, Trauma, and Cool, **CODE RUPTURE** fast tracks treatment of rAAA from diagnosis through treatment.

Inclusion Criteria

- 1 Any patient with a diagnostic study confirming a ruptured abdominal aortic aneurysm
- 2 Any patient with a known abdominal aortic aneurysm larger than 4cm **OR** iliac artery aneurysm, and any of the following:
 - a. Unexplained hypotension (clinical impression)
 - b. New onset of unrelenting back, abdominal, or flank pain

Exclusion Criteria

- 1 Any patient or their designate refuses surgery
- 2 Any patient deemed not a surgical candidate, examples may include:
 - a. Severe dementia; residing in a skilled nursing facility
 - b. Known terminal illness (ex. hospice patient with 3-12 months to end of life)

For CODE RUPTURE, contact:

CMC Physician Connection Line (PCL) at **704-512-7878**, or pick up the Yellow Phone and state: "I have a Code Rupture."

Make sure any films not available on Stentor are available on a disk to be sent with the patient.



Sanger Heart & Vascular Institute



Carolinas Medical Center