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.