CASE STUDIES on TIA/CVA - Salvatore

Case #1: 65 yo F presents with 25 minutes of garbled speech. Her exam is normal. Her VS are normal except BP 148/88. PMHx is negative. Head CT is normal.

What is the correct placement decision for this case?

OBSERVATION (but could be ADMISSION depending upon the level of documentation) Rationale: ABCD2 score = 3 based on age > 60, systolic BP > 140, isolated speech disturbance, and duration of symptoms 10 – 59 minutes. There is a 4.2% chance of a CVA over 48 hours.

Case #2: 66 yo female present with 60 minutes of L arm and leg weakness. Her exam is normal. Her VS reveal a BP of 160/92. PMHx is + for Type 2 DM. Head CT is normal.

What is the correct placement decision for this case?

ADMISSION (but could be OBSERVATION depending upon the level of documentation). Rationale: ABCD2 score = 7 based on age >60, Systolic BP > 140, unilateral weakness, duration > 59 minutes, and Hx of Diabetes. Two day risk of CVA over 48 hours is 8.1%.

Case #3: A 55 yo F presents with a 45 minute episode of garbled speech. Her VS are normal. PMHx is negative. Head CT shows multiple lacunar infarcts unchanged from 2 years ago.

What is the correct placement decision for this case?

OBSERVATION (but could be DISCHARGE depending upon the level of documentation). Rationale: ABCD2 score = 2 based on duration >10 but <60 minutes and isolated speech disturbance. There is a 1% chance of CVA over 48 hours.

Case # 4: A 66 yo female who 3 days ago had 60 minutes of L leg weakness. Her exam is normal. VS reveal a BP of 160/92. PMHx is + for GERD. Head CT shows an old right sided CVA.

What is the correct placement decision for this case?

DISCHARGE Rationale: ABCD2 score = 0. Symptoms were > 48 hours old.