



## Generalized Weakness & Dizziness Care Bundle

Metric	Goal
Complete set of vitals including temperature	Obtained and documented
Cincinnati Stroke Scale	Obtained during initial assessment and documented
Assess for Posterior Stroke	Perform and document coordination (finger-nose-finger) and gait testing if able
Blood Glucose	Obtained and documented
Assess for Symptoms of ACS (chest pain, dyspnea, abdominal pain)	Obtained and documented; if present, obtain EKG and consider giving ASA if not contraindicated

### Theory/Evidence

- **Complete set of vitals including temperature:** Weakness and dizziness have a broad differential and can be the presenting chief complaints for time-critical diagnoses, including sepsis, stroke, and acute coronary syndrome, especially in the geriatric population. Abnormal vital signs (including temperature, if available) can give key information regarding differential diagnosis and help the clinician have higher index of suspicion for life-threatening illness.
- **Cincinnati Stroke Scale:** The Cincinnati Stroke Scale is expected to be performed and documented when assessing for evidence of a stroke. A positive scale is constituted by one or more positive finding(s): pronator drift, facial droop, or slurred speech.
- **Assess for Posterior Stroke:** Approximately 20-25% of all strokes involve the posterior circulation, which can present with vague symptoms such as headache, dizziness, nausea/vomiting, or generalized weakness/fatigue. Testing coordination using the finger-to-nose test and assessing a patient's gait are critical in determining whether posterior stroke may be present. A stroke alert should be strongly considered when patients have experienced a *sudden* onset of symptoms and coordination or gait deficits, even with a normal Cincinnati Stroke Scale.
- **Blood Glucose:** Generalized weakness and dizziness can be symptoms of both hyper- and hypoglycemia. Moreover, blood glucose should be performed on all potential stroke patients to exclude symptomatic hypoglycemia as an etiology of the patient's presentation.
- **Assess for Symptoms of Acute Coronary Syndrome:** Dizziness or weakness is a common presentation for ACS or arrhythmia, and obtaining an EKG is important for detection of STEMI or arrhythmias.