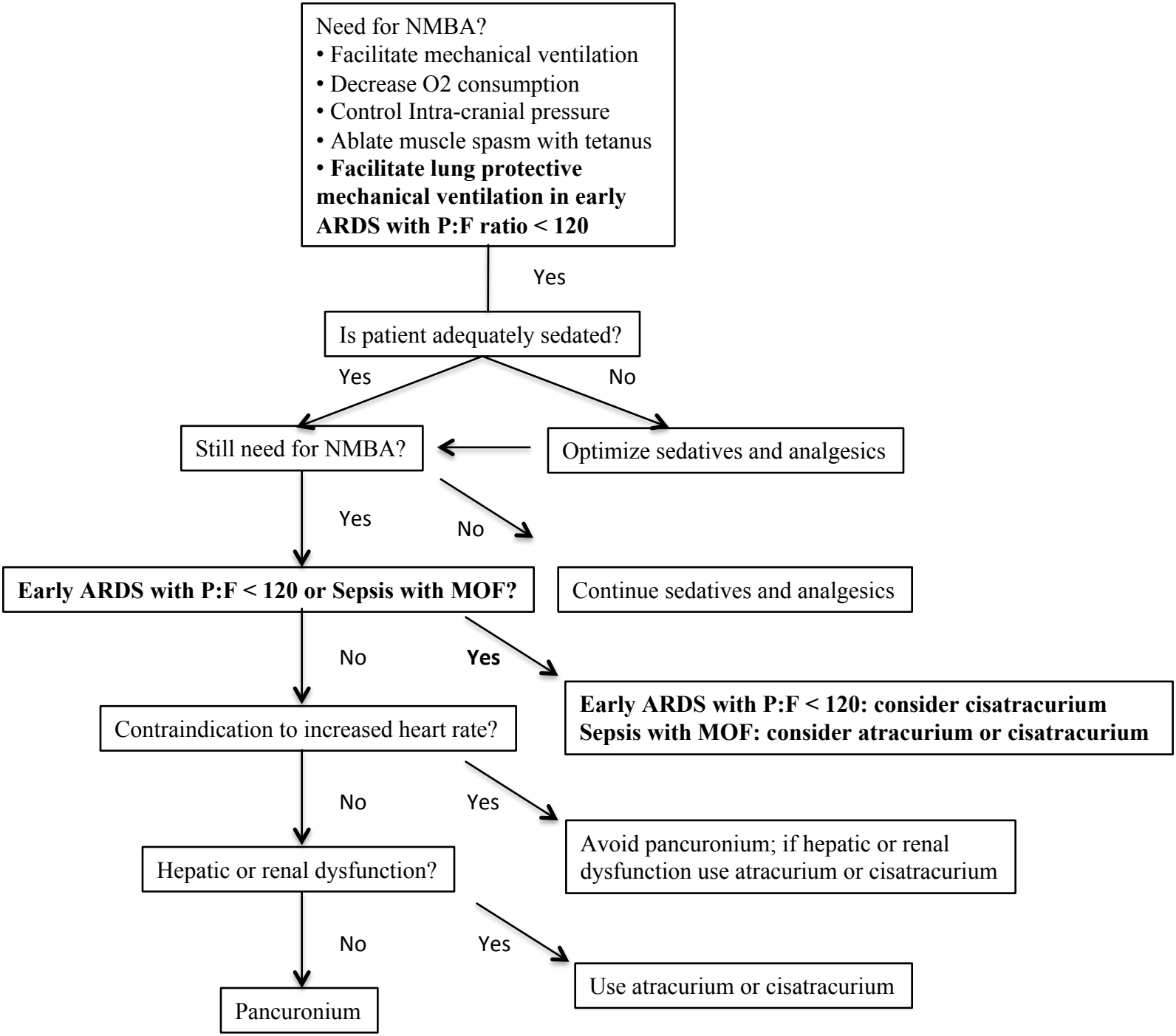
Need for NMBA?
• Facilitate mechanical ventilation
• Decrease O2 consumption
• Control Intra-cranial pressure
• Ablate muscle spasm with tetanus
• Facilitate lung protective mechanical ventilation in early ARDS with P:F ratio < 120
Yes
Is patient adequately sedated?
Yes
No
Still need for NMBA?
Optimize sedatives and analgesics
Yes
No
Early ARDS with P:F < 120 or Sepsis with MOF?
Continue sedatives and analgesics
No
Yes
Early ARDS with P:F < 120: consider cisatracurium
Sepsis with MOF: consider atracurium or cisatracurium
Contraindication to increased heart rate?
No
Yes
Avoid pancuronium; if hepatic or renal dysfunction use atracurium or cisatracurium
Hepatic or renal dysfunction?
No
Yes
Use atracurium or cisatracurium
Pancuronium