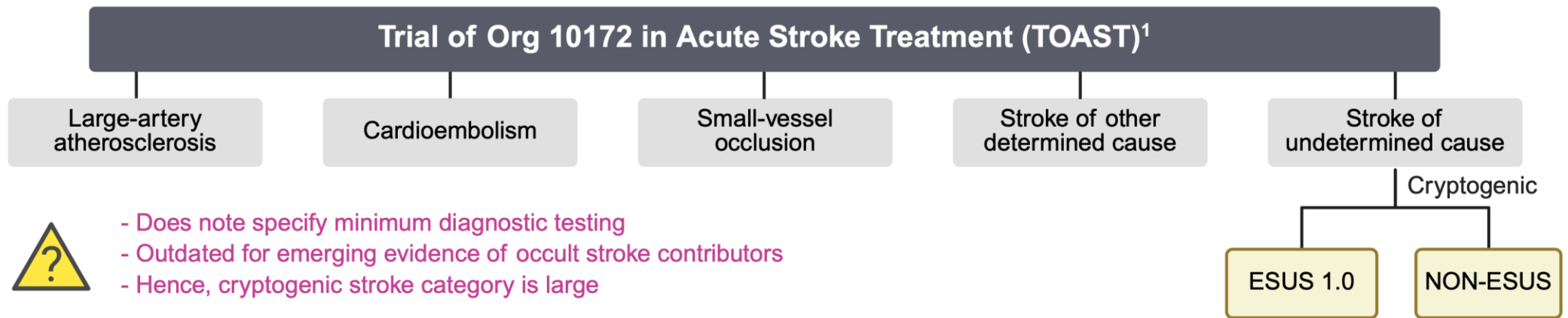


# The Critical Role of Etiologic Investigation in Acute Ischemic Stroke

## Acute Ischemic Stroke: A Heterogeneous Syndrome

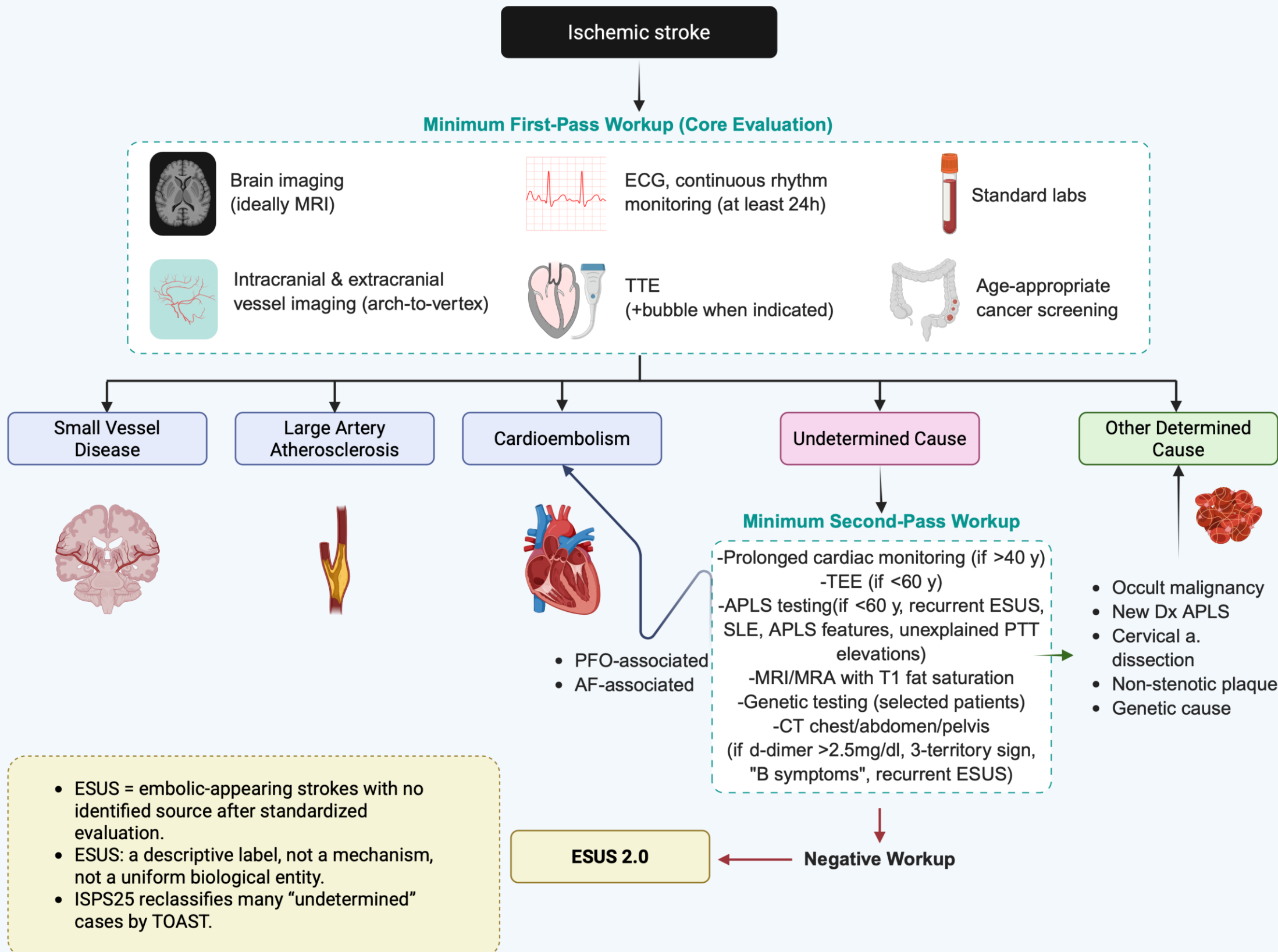
- Ischemic stroke - not a single disease entity, but a final common pathway of diverse vascular pathologies.
- Similar clinical syndromes can arise from distinct mechanisms, with different treatment implications and prognosis.
- Etiologic determination is often challenged by incomplete data and multiple, coexisting potential causes.

## TOAST Classification<sup>1</sup>: widely used due to its simplicity but outdated



## ISPS25 - Proposed Ischemic Stroke Phenotyping System 2025<sup>2</sup>

- Modernizes etiologic classification: incorporating current diagnostic technologies, addressing new mechanisms.
- Introduces a structured first-pass and second-pass workup, narrows “undetermined” category.



References:

1. Adams et al. *Stroke*. 1993;24(1):35-41.
2. Yashi et. *Stroke*. 2025;56:3552-3562.



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