Infantile Spasms: Diagnostic Algorithm

Pediatric Neurology Division, University of Utah/Primary Children's Medical Center, Salt Lake City, UT, April, 2011. http://medicine.utah.edu/pedsneurology/

Clinical Suspicion of infantile spasms (IS)

Further eval as needed. Consider repeat EEG in 1 week.  
Not IS

Definite or likely IS

EEG & Neurology Evaluation

MRI brain

Start Treatment for IS
(See Treatment Algorithm)

No diagnosis made

Consider First Tier/Metabolic Evaluation
- Plasma amino acids, uric acid, lactate without tourniquet, biotinidase.
- Urine organic acids, urine sulfocysteine, urine CMV PCR or culture
- CSF protein, glucose (with serum glucose) cell count, lactate, amino acids & neurotransmitters (5-MTHF, neurotransmitter metabolites, pyridoxal 5 phosphate, succinyladenosine)

Consider Second Tier/Genetic Evaluation
ARX, CDKL5, STXBP1 etc.