

# HISTORY

HPC

- Duration symptoms
- Speed of onset: Sudden / Gradual
- Chest Pain location: Central / Arm / Neck-Jaw / Back
- Chest Pain nature: Pleuritic / Tender
- Aggravating / Easing: Exertion / Position
- Associated symptoms: Nausea / Sweating / SOB / Syncope / Palpitations
- Cough: Sputum / Haemoptysis
- PE risk factors: Recent surgery / Immobility
- Chest trauma: Including surgery
- Recent viral illness

PMH

- Cardiac: IHD / MI / Heart failure / Angina
- PE risk factors: Cancer / Previous DVT / PE / flights
- Cardiac risk factors: Diabetes / Hypertension / High cholesterol
- Hiatus hernia / GORD

DH

- GTN / Isosorbide Mononitrate
- NSAID / Steroids
- Digoxin
- Beta-blockers
- VTE prophylaxis

SH / FH

- Smoking status: Non / Current / Ex
- VTE / IHD risk factors: 1<sup>st</sup> degree FH
- Sudden death: 1<sup>st</sup> degree FH

# EXAMINATION

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- Increased work of breathing
- Distressed / Sweating
- Patient cyanosed
- Patient adopting forward leaning position

AIRWAY

- Ensure airway patent

BREATHING

- Physical Observation: FiO<sub>2</sub> / RR / SaO<sub>2</sub>
- Tracheal position: Central / Deviated
- Auscultation: Crackles / Air entry / Bronchial breathing
- Percussion note: Dull / Hyperresonant
- Chest expansion: Equal / Unequal
- Sputum: Yellow-Green / Haemoptysis

CIRCULATION

- Physical Observation: HR / BP (both arms)
- Pulse: Regular / Irregular / Volume
- Heart sounds: Murmurs
- JVP: Not visible / <2cm / Raised
- Calves: SNT / Erythema / Painful
- Hydration status: CRT / Mucus membranes
- Peripheries: Unilateral swelling / Bilateral swelling / Pitting oedema / Sacral oedema

DISABILITY

- Physical Observation: Temp
- GCS

EXPOSURE

- Sternum / Chest: Bruising / Palpation tenderness
- Abdo: SNT / Distended / Epigastric tenderness

# INVESTIGATIONS

BLOODS

- FBC / U&E / CRP
- LFT
- Troponin: Serial
- D-Dimer: If suspected DVT/PE and WELLS <4

ABG

- pH
- pO<sub>2</sub> / pCO<sub>2</sub>
- HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>
- Lactate

CXR

- Consolidation
- Effusion
- Collapse
- Pneumothorax

ECG

- Serial: Dynamic changes
- Rate
- Rhythm: Arrhythmia
- Ischaemia: ST segment / T wave inversion / New LBBB
- Right heart strain: Right Axis / S1Q3T3

MICRO

- Cultures: If Temp > 38
- Sputum: MC&S

CTPA

- +ve D-Dimer
- WELLS score ≥ 5
- PE

DISCUSS WITH SENIOR

CT ANGIOGRAM

- Suspected Aortic dissection

DISCUSS WITH SENIOR

# POTENTIAL DIFFERENTIALS

ACS

PE

PNEUMOTHORAX

PNEUMONIA

TACHYARRHYTHMIA

MUSCULOSKELETAL CHEST PAIN

AORTIC DISSECTION

PERICARDITIS

ANGINA

GORD