

# CARDIAC CHEST PAIN (ACUTE CORONARY SYNDROME)

## ALL PROVIDERS

- ☐ Focused history and physical exam
  - Assess for signs or symptoms suggestive of ischemia or infarction.
  - Ask patient to describe the pain utilizing the O-P-Q-R-S-T mnemonic.
    - Onset of the event, Provocation or Palliation, Quality of the pain, Region and Radiation, Severity, Time/Trend (history)
  - Determine whether the patient (male or female) has taken erectile dysfunction medications such as Viagra, Levitra or Cialis within the last 24 hours.
- ☐ Continuous ECG, CO<sub>2</sub>, and pulse oximetry monitoring, blood pressure, when available.
- ☐ For prolonged transports >15 minutes: serial 12 lead ECGs should be obtained every 10 minutes until ED arrival
- ☐ **Treatment Plan**
  - Chest pain patients should only receive oxygen therapy as needed to target O<sub>2</sub> saturations ~94%
- ☐ **Key Considerations**
  - Assess blood glucose level.

### ADULT

### PEDIATRIC (<15 years of Age)

**NOTE: Pediatric weight based dosing should not exceed Adult dosing.**

### EMT

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- ☐ **Aspirin:** 325 mg PO chewed if patient is >18 years old and no reported allergies to aspirin
  - Administer even if patient takes a daily dose
- ☐ Assist patient with prescribed nitroglycerin SL every 5 minutes, up to 3 doses, as long as dyspnea or chest pain persist and SBP >90 mmHg
  - Do not administer nitroglycerin if the patient (male or female) has taken erectile dysfunction medications within the last 24 hours

### AEMT

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- ☐ Vascular access and fluid therapy.
- ☐ IV access prior to administration of nitroglycerin is preferable, if possible
- ☐ 12 Lead EKG (If available). Acquire and transmit.
- ☐ If the patient has a STEMI then transport to the closest available STEMI/PCI receiving center (if available) and give advanced notification of ECG findings and transmission of ECG if possible.
  - Confirm that a catheterization lab will be available for the patient. If NOT then
- ☐ Chest pain with cardiac origin is rare in children, consider other causes;
  - Asthma
  - Foreign body
  - Infection
  - Trauma

consider transporting to a different STEMI/PCI receiving center

- ☐ **Nitroglycerin:** 0.4 mg (every 5 minutes) (max of 3 doses) SL as long as chest symptoms persist *and* SBP >90 mmHg
  - Administer with caution in patients with known inferior ST-Elevation MI
  - Do not administer nitroglycerin if the patient (male or female) has taken erectile dysfunction medications within the last 24 hours
  - If hypotension occurs following nitroglycerin administration, administer 500mL bolus of NS and withhold further nitroglycerin.
- ☐ Pain medications per ***Pain and Anxiety Management Guideline***
- ☐ **Fentanyl** appears to have less effect on the effectiveness of antiplatelet agents than morphine and may be preferred in patients with ACS

**PARAMEDIC**

- 🕒 **Contact OLMC for further instructions.**

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