ED Pitfalls Series: *Triage*

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Preface

- The duty and specialty of emergency physicians are correct and immediate diagnosis.
- Physiological approach for non-traumatic patients and Anatomical approach for traumatic ones
- Logics: comparable with chief complaints.
- To err is human who includes the patients.

Preface: Sources of Errors

- Atypical presentations
 - Typical is sometimes minor whereas atypical is major.
- Missing the key points
 - What causes him (she) visit the ED? (What is the true chief complaint?)
- Incorrect exclusion
- Finding one abnormality is sometimes not enough. (Tip of the Iceberg)
- The first minute is not the same as the last minute.
- Consultation does not mean resolution.

Preface: Major Principles

- Revisiting means Complete Study.
- Always keep clinical suspicion.
- Keep flexible attitude.
- Always re-evaluate from the very beginning.
- Review carefully the old charts or records.
- Keep what should be maintained.
- Learn from READ triage.

Case A

- A 29 year-old female pregnant (GA 28 wks) was brought to ED after a traffic accident.
- Vital signs: GCS E3M6V4 BP 112/70 mmHg, PR 90 bpm, RR 20/min, BT 37.2°C, SpO2 95%.
- PMH: G1P1, Nil
- ABG: pH 7.350 PaO2 88 PaCO2 40 HCO3 20.2

Physiologic changes in pregnant woman

- Cardiovascular system
- Heart:

move upward, hypertrophy of cardiac muscle

- Cardiac Output increase by 30%, reach to peak at 32nd –34th week
- Blood pressure early or mid pregnancy BP ↓ . late pregnancy BP↑ .Supine hypotensive syndrome

Physiologic changes in pregnant woman

- Hematology
- 1. Blood volume
- 1) Increase by 30%-45% at 32nd –34th (peak)
- 2) Relatively diluted
- Composition
- 1) Red cells
 - Hb:13→11g/dL, HCT:38%→ 31%.
- 2) White cells: slightly increase
- Coagulating power of blood: ↑
- 4) Albumin: ↓, 35 g/L

Physiologic changes in pregnant woman

- The Respiratory system
- Resp. rate: slightly 1
- Vital capacity: no change
- Tidal volume: ↑ 40%
- Functional residual capacity: ↓
- 5. O_2 consumption: \uparrow 20%

Physiologic changes in pregnant woman

- The urinary system
- Kidney
- 1) Renal plasma flow (RFP): † 35%
- 2) Glomerular filtration rate (GFR): † 50%
- 2. Ureter
 - Dilated (P↑)
- 3. Bladder
 - Frequent micturation

Physiologic changes in pregnant woman

- Gastrointestinal system
- Gastric emptying time is prolonged→ nausea.
- 2) The motility of large bowel is diminished
 - → constipation
- 3) Liver function: unchanged

10

Physiologic changes in pregnant woman

- Endocrine
- 1. Pituitary (hypertrophy)
- 1) LH/FSH: ↓
- 2) PRL: †
- 3) TSH and ACTH: ↑
- 2. Thyroid
- enlarged (TSH and HCG †)
- 2) thyroxine \uparrow and TBG \uparrow \rightarrow free T₃ T₄ unchanged

Case A

- Normal Lab values
 - Hct 32% -42%
 - WBC count 5,000-12,000/L
 - Arterial pH 7.40-7.45
 - Bicarbonate 17-22 mEg/L
 - PaCO2 25-30 mmHg

12

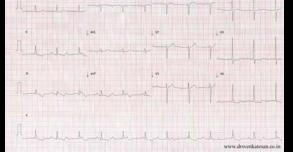
Case A

Respiratory alkalosis is normal in late pregnancy, whereas "normal" CO2 partial pressure (a PaCO2 35-40 mmHg) may indicate CO2 retention, even impending respiratory failure.

Case B

- A 70 year-old male complains of general weakness for 1 day.
- Vital signs: BP 112/70 mmHg, PR 61 bpm, RR 22/min, BT 39.9°C, SpO2 95%. GCS E4M6V5
- PMH: Hypertension with medications

Case B

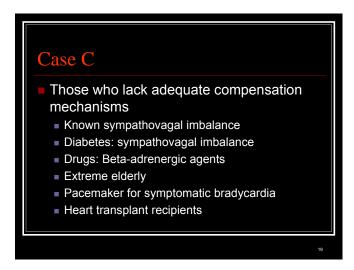


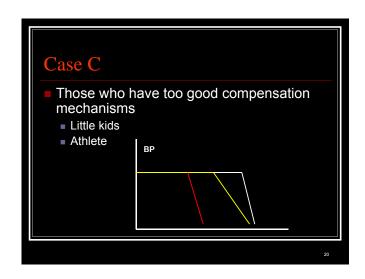
Case B

- Different vital signs should be integrated together instead of reading separately!
- Everyone's normal range may not be the individual's "normal range".
- In case B, TTAS II → Should be modified as Triage I

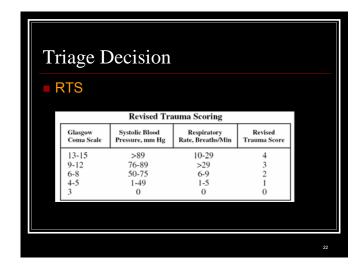
Case C

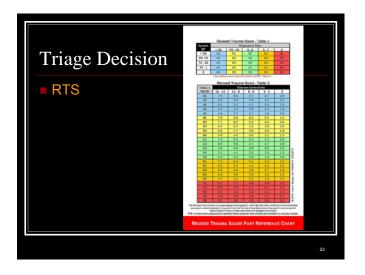
- A 77 year-old female has been noted tarry stool for 1 day.
- Vital signs: BP 106/78 mmHg, PR 69 bpm, RR 24/min, BT 36.2°C, SpO2 96%. GCS E3M6V3-4
- - Dementia for 5 years
 - some kind of heart problem (according to her Indonesia care-giver)

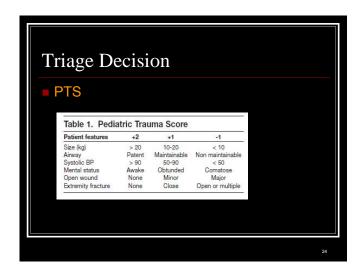


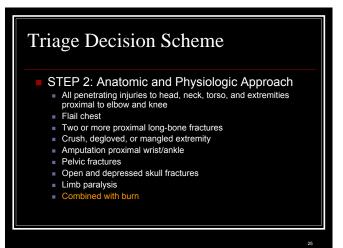


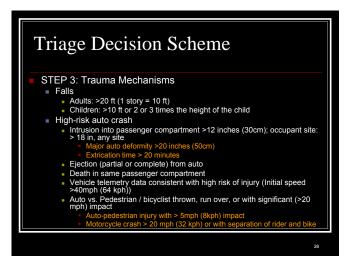












Triage Decision Scheme

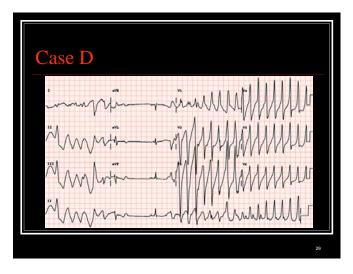
STEP 4: Special Patient or System Considerations

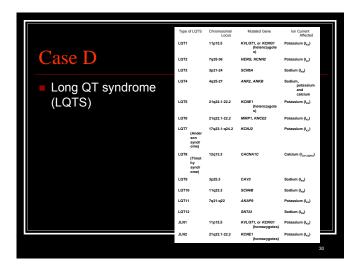
Age

Older adults: Risk of injury / death increases after age 55
Children: Should be triaged preferentially to pediatric-capable trauma centers (<5 y)

Anticoagulant and bleeding disorders
Time-sensitive extremity injury
Pregnancy >20 wks
EMS provider judgment
End-stage renal disease requiring dialysis
Immunosuppressed patients
Cardiac disease; respiratory disease
Insulin-dependent diabetes; cirrhosis; morbid obesity

Case D
A 26-year-old female has found falling down 20 minutes ago. She regained consciousness 3 minutes later.
Vital signs: BP 120/68, PR 62, RR 20, BT 35.8, SpO2 98% GCS E4M6V5
PMH: PID/leukorrhea under treatment





Case D

- Acquired long QT
 - Antibiotics
 - Antidepressants
 - Antifungals
 - Antihistamines
 - Diuretics
 - Heart medications
 - Lipid-lowering medications
 - Oral hypoglycemics (for diabetes)
 - Psychotropic medications

Case D

- Medications that triggers TdP in inherited **LQTS**
 - Appetite suppressants
 - Bronchodilators
 - Catecholamines
 - Certain common antibiotics (e.g., erythromycin)
 - Decongestants
 - Uterine relaxants
 - Vasoconstrictors

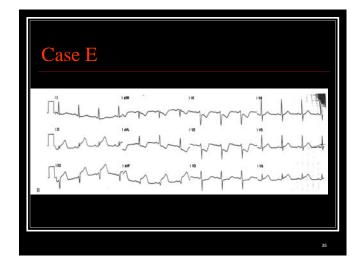
Case D

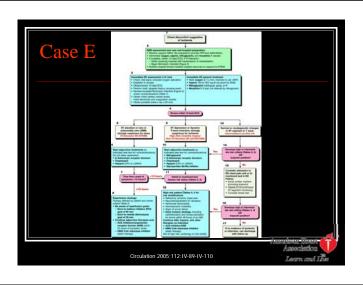
- Conscious Change
 - GCS 14-15 → TTAS Triage III-V
 - GCS 9-13 → TTAS Triage II
 - GCS 3-8 → TTAS Triage I
- Syncope right now or just before

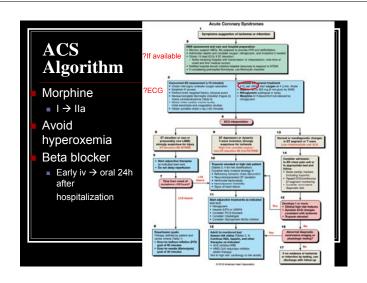
 - Always implicates Triage I
 TTAS Triage III-V (can be modified as Triage I)

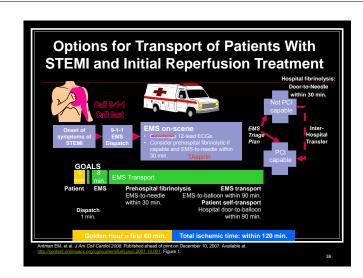
Case E

- A 45-year-old male complains of chest pain and cold sweating for 30 minutes
- Vital signs: BP 140/82, PR 80, RR 18, BT 36.5, SpO2 97% GCS E4M6V5
- PMH: smoking









ESC STEMI Guidelines 2012

PG Steg (Hôpitaux de Paris, France)

ESC 2012

- The new document supplants the guidelines released in 2008 and complements the non-STEMI treatment guidelines released at the ESC 2011 Congress
- It is hoped that better coordination and organization of STEMI care will reduce delays in the treatment of this urgent population.
- The new standard for time from medical contact to ECG is 10 minutes, and target time to primary PCI should be 60 minutes. Two hours is the limit of acceptable delay for a patient transferred from a non-PCI center to a PCI center, but the target should be 90 minutes.
- If PCI within two hours of presentation appears to be impossible, then fibrinolysis should be administered within 30 minutes.
- If fibrinolysis succeeds, angiography can begin with the expectation of PCI within three to 24 hours. If fibrinolysis fails, the interventionalist should consider PCI immediately.



New ESC STEMI Guidelines

Further guideline recommendations:

- Interventionalists should monitor and report their performance, including door-to-balloon times and any other treatment delays.
- Implanting drug-eluting instead of bare-metal stents in patients who are not contraindicated for dual antiplatelet therapy and are likely to stick to their prescribed regimen. The guidelines advise newer antiplatelet drugs, such as prasugrel or ticagrelor, over clopidogrel.
- The guidelines also support employing transradial catheterization rather than the transfemoral approach, but only in the hands of experienced operators.
- Areas in need of further research are identified in the guidelines—such as questions about early prehospital care to long-term management.

heart.

ESC STEMI Guidelines 2012: Commentary*

"[The new guidelines] emphasize the need to have geographic networks to care for patients so that the decisions and protocols are not simply coordinated at one site or one department, but across geographic regions between the various stakeholders.

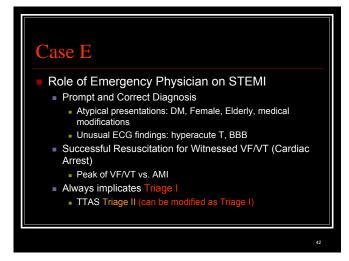
"[They are] much more demanding [than the 2008 guidelines] in terms of delays. The new standard for time from medical contact to ECG is 10 minutes, and the fact that you use primary PCI should not lead to complacency about the delays. You should target 60 minutes.

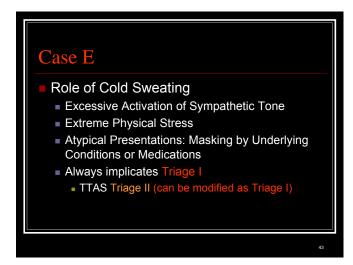
"if I had to pick one area as the most critical, I'd highlight the challenge of integrating the various concomitant drug therapies, especially triple therapy in stent recipients who have to have anticoagulation. That's a vexing clinical problem for which we have very little data."

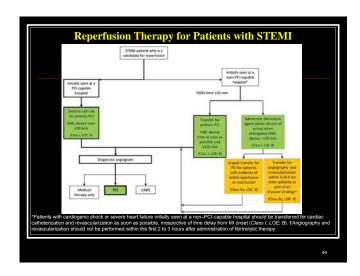
- Dr Gabriel Steg

*All comments from New European STEMI guidelines emphasize care coordination

heart







Adjunctive Antithrombotic Therapy to Support Reperfusion With Primary PCI

Antiplatelet therapy
Aspirin

• 162- to 325-mg laad before procedure

• 18- to 325-mg daily maintenance dose (indefinite)*

• 18 mg daily is the preferred maintenance dose'
P27_{xx} sinhibitors
Loading doses

• Clopidogret: 600 mg as early as possible or at time of PCI

• Prassupret: 60 mg as early as possible or at time of PCI

• Ticagrelor: 180 mg as early as possible or at time of PCI

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• Ticagrelor: 180 mg as early as possible or at time of PCI

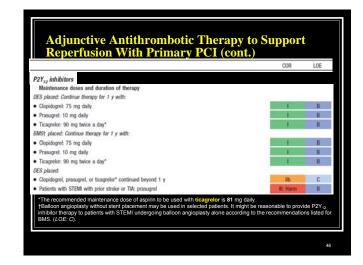
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• Ticagrelor: 180 mg as early as possible or at time of PCI



Adjunctive Antithrombotic Therapy to Support PCI After Fibrinolytic Therapy

COR LOE

Antiplatelet therapy

Aspirin

• 162- to 325-mg loading dose given with fibrinolytic agent (before PCI).

(Section 5.1.4.1 and Table 7)

• 81 to 325-mg daily maintenance dose after PCI (indefinite)

• 81 mg daily is the preferred daily maintenance dose

P2Y₁₂₂ receptor inhibitors

Loading doses

For patients who neceived a loading dose of clopidogrel with fibrinolytic therapy:

• Continue clopidogrel 75 mg daily without an additional loading dose

For patients who have not received a loading dose of clopidogrel:

• If PCI is performed ≤24 h after fibrinolytic therapy: clopidogrel 300-mg loading dose before or at the time of PCI

• If PCI is performed ≤24 h after fibrinolytic therapy: clopidogrel 600-mg loading dose before or at the time of PCI

• If PCI is performed >24 h after fibrinolytic therapy: clopidogrel 600-mg loading dose before or at the time of PCI

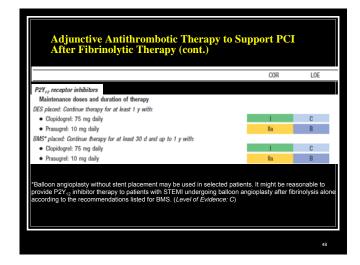
• If PCI is performed >24 h after fibrinolytic therapy: clopidogrel 600-mg loading dose before or at the time of PCI

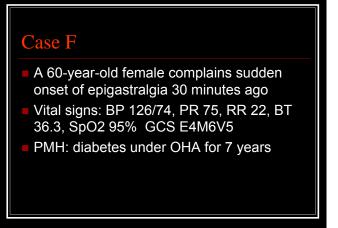
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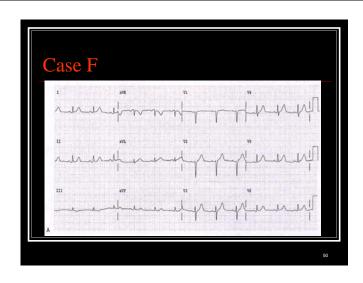
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• If PCI is performed >24 h after fibrinolytic therapy: clopidogrel 600-mg loading dose before or at the time of PCI

For patients with prior stroke/TAt: prasugrel



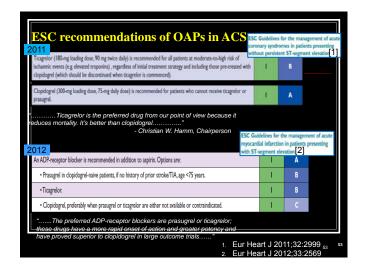


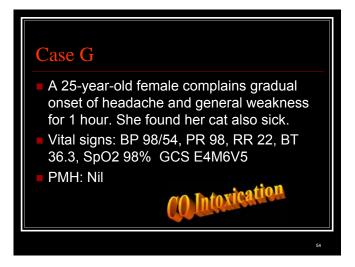


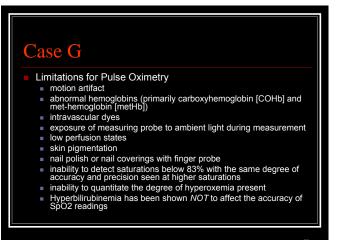
Case F

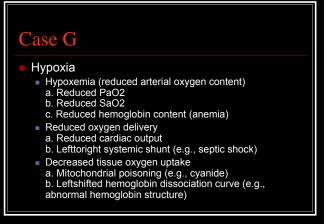
Unusual presentations
Sudden onset
Severe symptoms that never experienced
Extreme gaps between symptoms and signs
Sense of dying (or end of the world)
Illusion or hallucination of ghosts / gods
Esp. in
those with atypical presentations
Low socio-economic status or special culture background

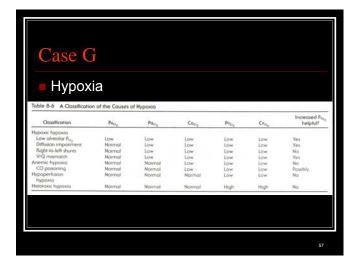
Guidelines	OAP	COR	LOE	Recommendations
STEMI (2013) [1]	Ticagrelor	1	В	In patients subjected to primary PCI. a 180mg Bicagrelor loading should be given as early as POTHMAC at time of PCI. 2. In patients receiving a BMS or DES during PCI for STEMI for 1 year
NSTEMI/UA (2012) [2]	Ticagrelor	1	В	Description of high risk and in which is half invasive strategy is selected should receive dual anglated therapy. Isoselected should receive dual should be received as the ECI. Selected the reapy. Isoselected before PCI and at the ECI. Togged on PCI and a PCI. Togged on PCI. Togged o
		1	В	Patients with an initial conservative strategy selected should be given ticagrelor added to aspirin and anticoagulant therapy as soon as possible after admission and administered for up to 12 months.
ACS-PCI (2011) [3]	Ticagrelor	.1.	А	In patients receiving a BMS or DES during PCI for ACI for at least 12 months



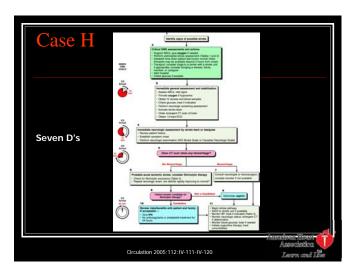


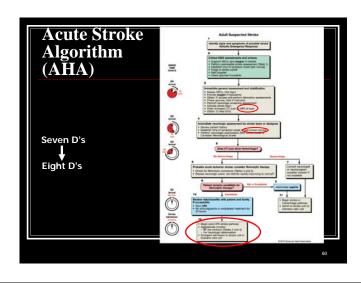




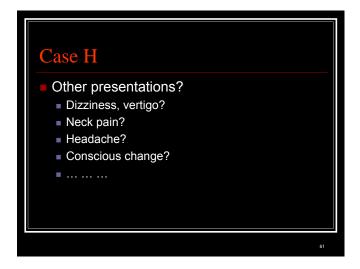


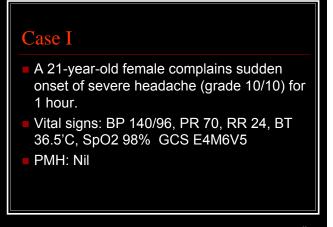
Case H
A 68-year-old male was noted to have acute onset of right-sided weakness and speech difficulty 45 minutes ago.
Vital signs: BP 170/122, PR 64, RR 22, BT 36.0'C, SpO2 96% GCS E4M6V5
PMH: Nil



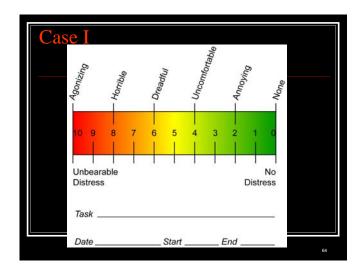


58









Case I Life-Threatening Pain AMI, DAA, PE, Cardiac Tamponade, Tension Pneumothorax, Esophageal Rupture Hollow organ perforation, SMA Occlusion, Internal Hernia Necrotizing Fasciitis SAH Organ-Threatening Pain Glaucoma PAOD

Case J
A 45-year-old female was injured by her husband 1 hour ago. Multiple bruising over her trunk and left forearm deformity were noted.
Vital signs: BP 122/68, PR 95, RR 22, BT 35.6'C, SpO2 98% GCS E4M6V5
PMH: Nil

Case J

- Social Indication as Triage I
 - Domestic Violence
 - Child Abuse
 - Sexual Assault
 - Attempted Homicide
- Highly Clinical Suspicion
- **Usually Under-triaged**

Case J

- Child Abuse
 - Screening
 - More than 3 episodes of trauma from ED recordings
 - Inconsistent medical history
 - Inconsistence between history and physical findings
 - Delayed transportation / consultation
 - Any fracture or head injury for those < 1y</p>

Case J

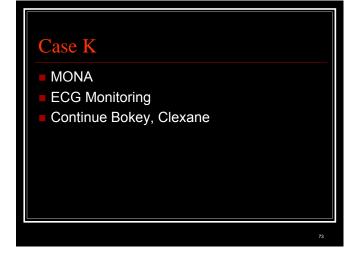
- Child Abuse
 - Physical Findings
 - Skin: Blunt Injury, Burn, Bite
 - Face: Raccoon Eye, ENT, Teeth, Lip, Hair
 - Head: Abusive Head Injury, Shaken Baby
 - Abdomen: Liver Laceration, Duodenal Hematoma, Traumatic Pancreatitis, Mesentery Laceration
 - - Much younger; Multiple; Varying stages; Spiral or Oblique
 - Eg: post. ribs; scapula; sternum; complex skull

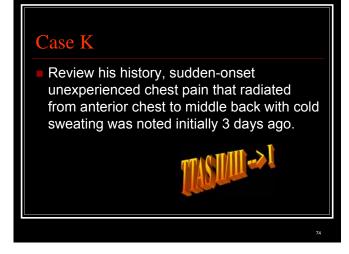
Case J

- Child Abuse
 - High Specificity (for example)
 - Metaphyseal fractures
 - Rib fractures
 - Scapular fractures
 - Fractures of the outer end of the clavicle
 - Fractures of differing ages
 - Vertebral fractures or subluxation
 - Digital injuries in non-mobile children
 - Bilateral skull fractures
 - Complex skull fractures

Case K

- A 70-year-old patient was transferred to our ED under the diagnosis of ACS. His present chief complaint is SOB for more than 2 days (R1 recorded). He consulted another ED and has gotten the treatment of Clexane for 2 days.
- BP 136/72, PR 100/min, RR 18/min, SpO2 97%, GCS E4M6V5
- PMH: Hypertension









Case K

Inter-Hospital Transfer

Usually treated as Triage I
Over-triage rather than Under-triage

Complete history taking
From the very beginning
Other complaint at the 1st visit

Complete exclusion or NOT
Utfe-threatening chest pain

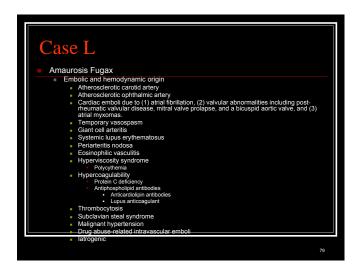
ACS
DAA
PE
Tension pneumothorax
Cardiac tamponade
Esophageal rupture

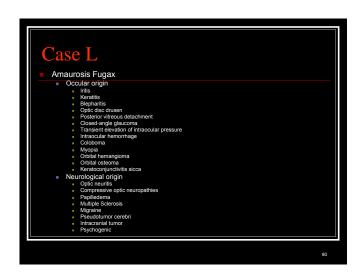
Case L

A 63-year-old male suffered from sudden onset of left eye blindness.

BP 158/92, PR 84/min, RR 20/min, SpO2 96%, GCS E4M6V5

PMH: DM and Hypertension for 10 years





Case M

- A 12-year-old boy was sent to ED due to progressive dyspnea for several hours. He was just discharged 1 week ago after successful extubation.
- BP 110/66, PR 120/min, RR 28/min, SpO2 92%, GCS E4M6V5. No wheezing
- PMH: Asthma

81

ACS Pitfalls

- Absence of typical chest pain
- Chest wall tenderness can exclude cardiac ischemia
- Assumption that a young patient sould not have ACS
- Assumption that a normal ECG rules out cardiac ischemia
- Fail to identify AMI in presence of LBBB or ventricular arrhythmia
- Discharge patients after a single set of negative cardiac enzyme
- Missed RV infarct in inferior STEMI

82

