"Doctor, my chest hurts"

Diagnosis and Treatment of ACS



Objectives

- Define ACS
- Assess and triage patient presenting with chest pain/ ACS
- Demonstrate appropriate use of a Coronary Risk Calculator
- Determine appropriate initial management of a patient with suspected ACS

Case Study

66yo female with h/o HTN, DSL, COPD, and DM2 admitted for community acquired pneumonia and acute on chronic respiratory failure complaining of chest pain. Nurse reports onset chest pain 10 minutes ago. BP 130/80, HR 92. You order a stat EKG.

What is Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS)?

The term ACS is applied to patients in whom there is a suspicion or confirmation of acute myocardial ischemia or infarction. The following conditions fall into this category:

- Unstable Angina ischemic symptoms suggestive of ACS without elevation in troponin, with or without EKG changes indicative of ischemia
- NSTEMI symptoms, with or without EKG changes, and an elevation in Troponin
- STEMI presence of symptoms, AND and elevated Troponin, AND ST elevation in contiguous leads or new onset LBBB on EKG

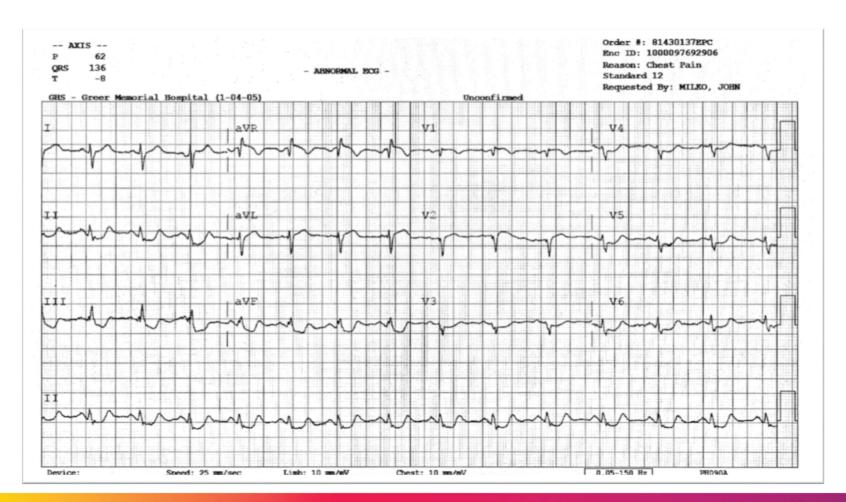
Fourth Universal Definition of MI

- Type 1: caused by acute atherothrombotic CAD and usually precipitated by plaque disruption
- Type 2: MI consequent to a mismatch between oxygen supply and demand (including coronary dissection, vasospasm, emboli, or conditions of increased demand)

- Type 3: typical presentation, but with unexpected death before the appearance of biomarkers in the blood
- Type 4: MI associated with PCI
- Type 5: MI associated with CABG

Symptoms of ACS

- Chest pain or discomfort, often described as pressure, fullness, or tightness
- Pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the jaw, neck, back, or stomach
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea
- Diaphoresis



An EKG has been obtained, what next?

Cardiac Enzymes

- CK >2x normal or elevated CK-MB
- Troponin is more sensitive than CKMB
- Elevated troponin is highly specific for cardiac injury (compared to CK) but may be elevated due to A-fib, PE, recent DCCV, renal disease, etc.

Cardiac Risk Score

TIMI risk score – One point is given for each of the following:

- age > 65
- ASA within the last week
- at least 2 angina episodes in the last 24 hrs
- ST deviation on EKG
- known CAD
- at least 3 risk factors for CAD

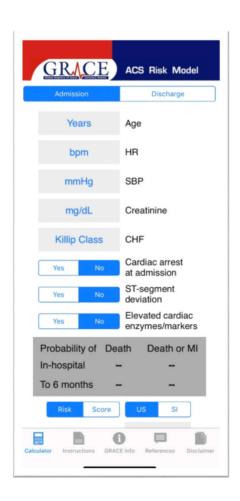
Patients are considered to be at low risk with a score of 0-2, intermediate risk with a score of 3-4, and high risk with a score of 5 or greater

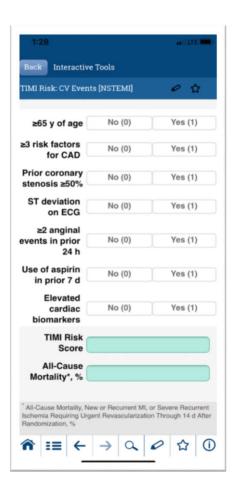
GRACE Score

 Predictor variables used are age, HR, SBP, serum Cr, Killip heart failure class, presence of cardiac arrest, deviation of ST segment, and cardiac enzyme levels.

Killip heart failure classification

- Stage 1: No clinical signs of decompensation
- Stage 2: presence of rales, S3, JVD
- Stage 3: frank pulmonary edema
- Stage 4: hypotension or cardiogenic shock





HEART Score

Used by the ED. Takes into account the history (subjective), EKG findings, Age, Risk factors, and initial troponin. Each category is assigned a score.

- Score of 0-3: 0.9 1.7% risk of MACE (major adverse cardiac event) in the next 6 weeks.
- Score of 4-6: 12 16.6% risk
- Score > 7: 50- 65% risk. These patients are candidates for early intervention.

If ACS is Definite or Likely

- Aspirin 324mg Immediate Release
- P2Y12 (Effient or Brilinta)
- Anticoagulant (Heparin)
- Other measures: Morphine, Oxygen to keep SO2> 90%, SL NTG

Timing of LHC: Early Intervention Strategy

< 2 hrs

- hemodynamic instability or cardiogenic shock
- recurrent or ongoing chest pain refractory to medical therapy
- life threatening arrhythmias or cardiac arrest
- acute heart failure with refractory angina or ST deviation
- dynamic ST or T-wave changes, particularly ST elevation (goal = 90 minute door to balloon)

< 24 hrs

- rise of cardiac enzymes
- ST or T wave changes
- Elevated heart score (GRACE score > 140)

< 72 hrs recommended in pts with at least one of these intermediate risk criteria:

- DM
- Renal insufficiency
- New LVEF < 40% or CHF (see note below)
- Early post-infarction angina
- Recent PCI
- Prior CABG
- GRACE score > 109 and < 140

Early invasive strategy is NOT recommended in patients with:

- extensive comorbidities in which the risk outweighs the benefit of revascularization
- acute chest pain and low likelihood of ACS with negative troponins

Antiplatelet / Anticoagulant Considerations

How long to continue DAPT???

- BMS: at least one month
- DES (depends on the type/ generation of stent placed): rule of thumb is at least 12 months
- CABG: 12 months (in presence of ACS)
- medical management of NSTEMI: at least 12 months
- s/p lytics: minimum of 14 days and ideally at least one year

Best Practice Guidelines for Long-Term Management of ACS

- Aspirin
- Beta-blocker
- RAS blocker (ACEi or ARB)
- Statin
- Heartlife referral

Review of Case Study

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- EKG: NSR with lateral ST depression
- Troponins: 0.04, 1.64, 4.56

- → ASA 324mg and 81mg daily
- → Ticagrelor 180mg once and 90mg BID
- → Heparin 5000u bolus and gtt
- → PRN Morphine, oxygen, and NTG
- → Early intervention strategy is recommended < 24hrs
- → BB, ACEi, and statin

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