

*Turkish - Macedonian  
Meeting*



# Acute Coronary Syndromes Diagnosis and Treatment

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**ATUDER**  
Acil Tıp Uzmanları Derneği





William Heberden (1710-1801)



# Canadian Cardiovascular Society Classification of Angina

- Class I

- Angina occurs only with strenuous, rapid, or prolonged exertion. Ordinary physical activity does not cause angina.

- Class II

- Slight limitation of ordinary activity. Angina occurs with climbing stairs rapidly, walking uphill, walking after meals, in cold, in wind, or under emotional stress.

- Class III

- Marked limitations of ordinary physical activity. Angina occurs on walking one to two level blocks or climbing one flight of stairs at usual pace.

- Class IV

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- Inability to carry on physical activity without discomfort. Anginal

# Unstable Angina Pectoris

- Rest angina
  - Angina occurring at rest and usually prolonged >20 min occurring within 1 wk of presentation
- New-onset angina
  - Angina of at least CCSC III severity with onset within 2 mo of presentation



# Goals

- Reduce myocardial necrosis,
- Protect left ventricles (LV) function
- Prevent heart failure
- Limit major adverse cardiac events (MACE)  
and requirement of invasive procedure

# Goals

- Treat

- VF,

- pulseless VT,

- symptomatic bradycardia,

- unstable tachycardia,

- pulmonary edema,



# Acute Coronary Syndrome

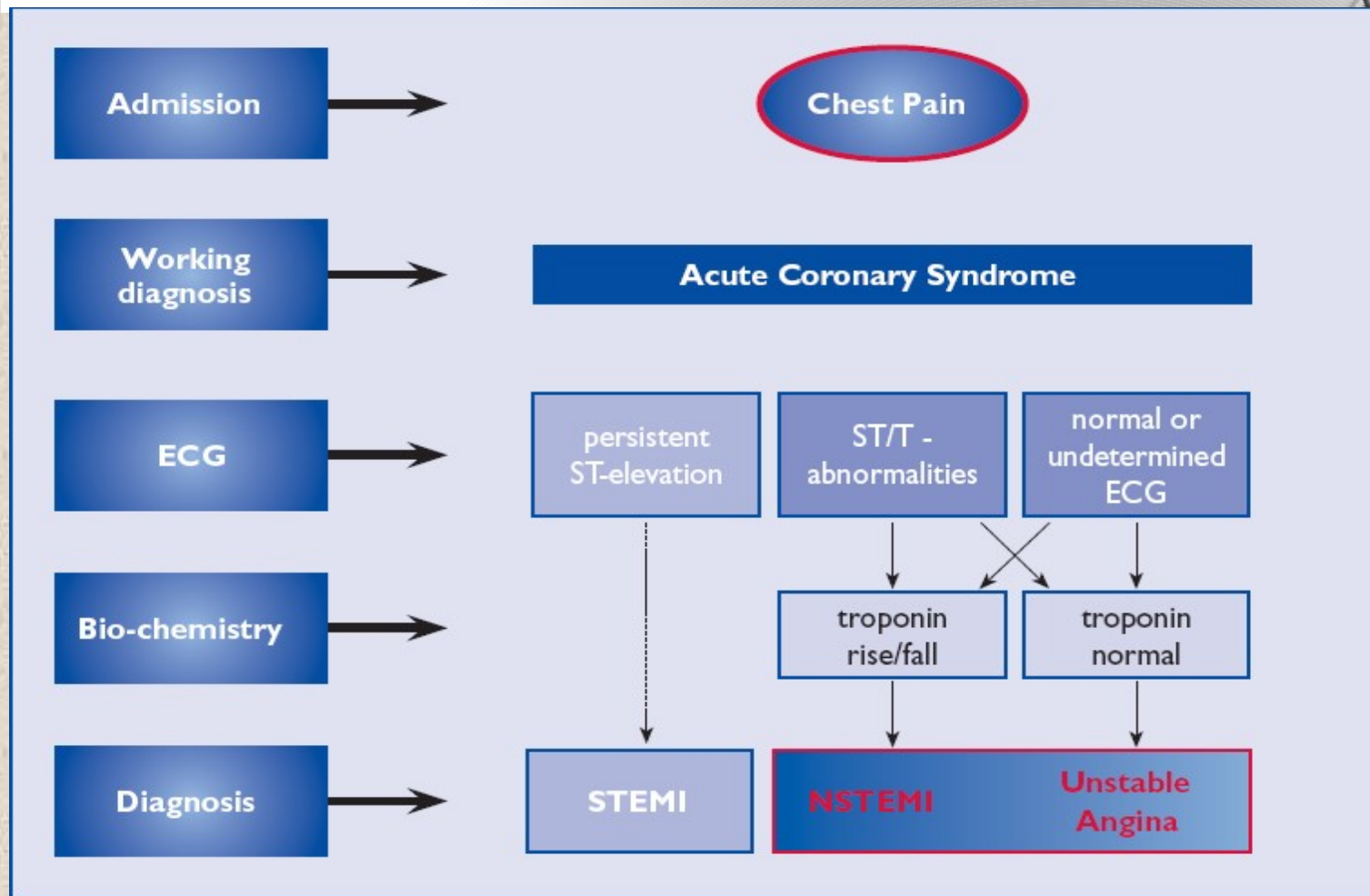
- Strongly suspicious for injury ST-elevation MI (STEMI)

- ST elevation or new or presumably new LBBB;

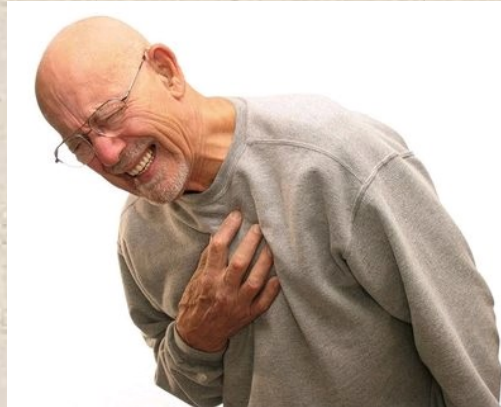
- Strongly suspicious for ischemia ; High risk unstable angina/ non- ST-elevation MI

(UA/NSTEMI)

- ST depression or dynamic T wave inversion,







# Chest pain

- Classic
  - Retrosternal left anterior chest or
  - Epigastric discomfort described as crushing, tightening, squeezing,
  - Pressure like sensation



# Chest pain

- Two fold higher risk of ischemia
  - Dyspnea, diaphoresis, nausea, and/or vomiting
- Atypical presentations of ACS
  - women,
  - non white minorities,
  - diabetics,
  - the elderly,
  - patients with psychiatric disease

# Physical examination

- The physical examination is frequently normal.
- Signs of heart failure or hemodynamic instability.
- Exclude non-cardiac causes of chest pain and non-ischaemic cardiac disorders

# ECG

- First-line diagnostic tool.
- It should be obtained within 10 min after first medical contact
- About half of patients with AMI have "diagnostic" changes on the initial ECG

○ If the initial ECG is normal or inconclusive,



# ECG

- Comparison with a previous ECG, if available, is valuable,
- ECG recordings should be repeated at least at (3 h) 6–9 h and 24 h after first presentation, and immediately in the case of recurrence of chest pain or symptoms

# Cardiac biomarkers

- Troponins

- More specific and sensitive than CK, CK-MB, and myoglobin. Elevation of cardiac troponins reflects myocardial cellular damage

- There is no fundamental difference between troponin T and troponin I. Useful for diagnose

# Cardiac biomarkers

- Troponins

- A single negative test on first contact with the patient is not sufficient for ruling out

- NSTEMI-ACS, as in many patients an increase in troponins can be detected only in the

subsequent hours. Therefore, repeated



# Non-acute coronary syndrome causes of troponin elevation

- Chronic or acute renal dysfunction
- Severe congestive heart failure – acute and chronic
- Hypertensive crisis
- Tachy- or bradyarrhythmias
- Pulmonary embolism, severe pulmonary hypertension
- Inflammatory diseases, e.g. myocarditis
- Acute neurological disease, including stroke, or subarachnoid haemorrhage

# Non-acute coronary syndrome causes of troponin elevation

- Cardiac contusion, ablation, pacing, cardioversion, or endomyocardial biopsy
- Hypothyroidism
- Apical ballooning syndrome (Tako-Tsubo cardiomyopathy)
- Infiltrative diseases, e.g. amyloidosis, haemochromatosis, sarcoidosis, sclerodermia
- Drug toxicity, e.g. adriamycin, 5-fluorouracil, herceptin, snake venoms
- Burns, if affecting >30% of body surface area

# Cardiac biomarkers

- CK MB

- Increase in 4-8 h

- Peak 12-24 h

- Myoglobin

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- Increase in 6-8h of 80-100% MI patients



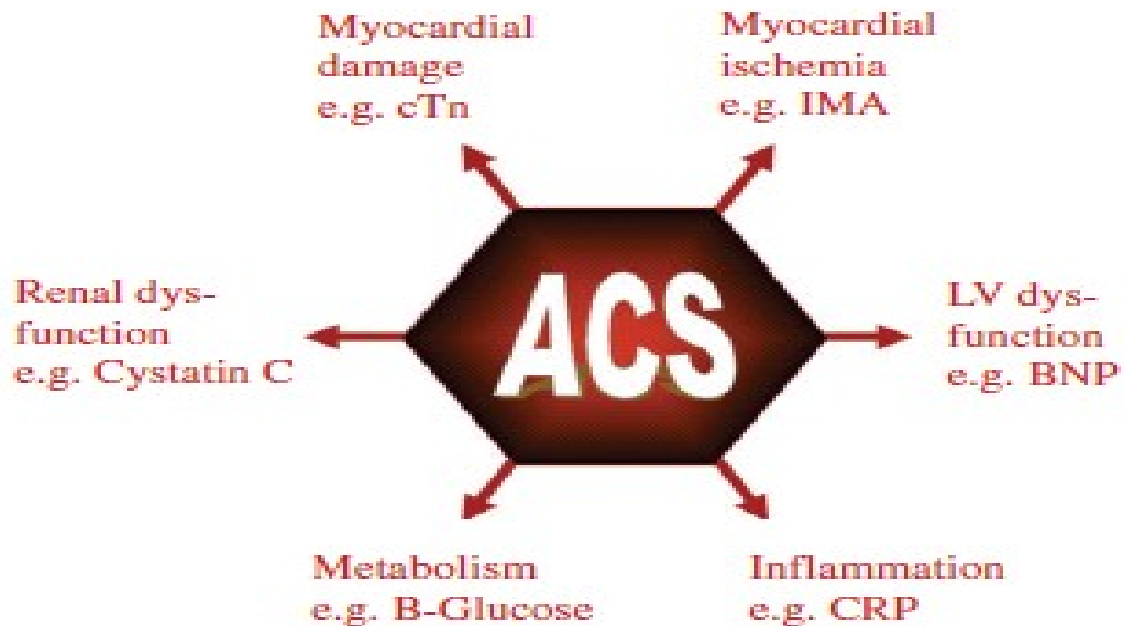
# Other cardiac biomarkers

- Natriuretic peptides are useful markers in the emergency room in evaluating chest pain or dyspnoea and were shown to be helpful in differentiating cardiac and non-cardiac causes of dyspnea

◦ hsCRP has no role for the diagnosis of ACS

# Other cardiac biomarkers

- Early diagnosis of ACS may be improved by measurements of fatty acid-binding protein or ischaemia-modified-albumin as well as markers of systemic stress (copeptin).
- However, the incremental value—particularly over highly sensitive troponin tests—has not been evaluated, thereby presently precluding any recommendation for routine use.



**Figure 1** Different pathophysiological mechanisms and associated biomarkers.

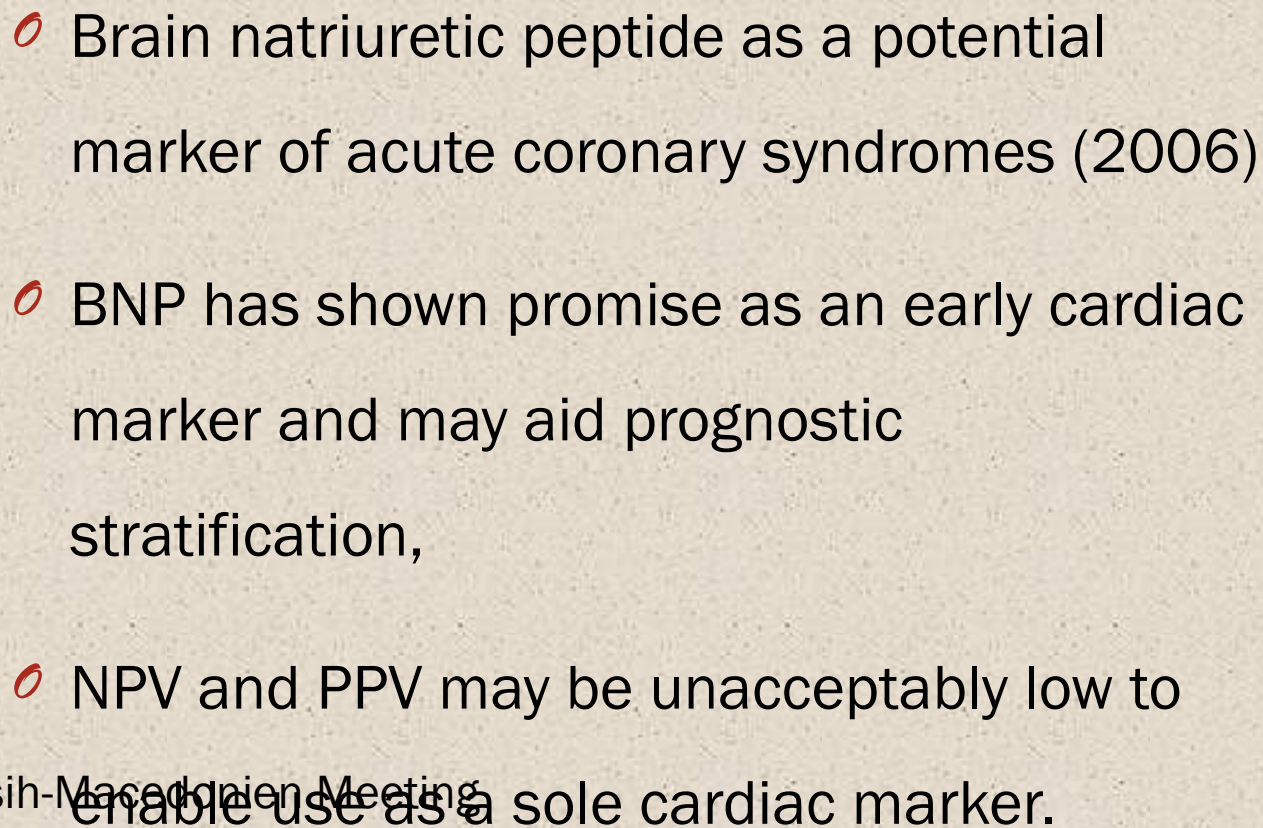
BNP, B-type natriuretic peptide; CRP, C-reactive protein; cTn, cardiac troponin I or T; IMA, ischemia modified albumin; LV, left ventricular.



# Point of care testing

- Rapid response testing accelerates decision making and supports the standard of care for acute coronary syndromes

- POC cardiac biomarker testing





BestBETs  
BEST EVIDENCE TOPICS

- Heart fatty acid binding protein for rapid diagnosis of acute myocardial infarction in the Emergency Department (2009)
- H-FABP is a promising biomarker for early exclusion of AMI in the ED but cannot be used alone to rule out the diagnosis.



# New biomarkers

○ CRP, serum amyloid A  
(SAA), IL-6, soluble  
intercellular adhesion  
molecule (ICAM), soluble

vascular cell adhesion

# Echocardiography

- LV systolic function is an important prognostic variable
- Transient segmental hypokinesia or akinesia may be detected during ischemia.
- Differential diagnoses such as aortic dissection, pulmonary embolism, aortic stenosis, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, or

# Echocardiography

- It is important that noncardiologists (e.g. ED physicians) have undergone training in cardiac ultrasound.
- Rapid, safe, painless and effective imaging tool that can be utilized in the ED in the initial assessment of certain patients presenting with acute chest pain.

- Most useful in the acute management of the



# High Likelihood

Any of the following

- History
  - Chest or left arm pain or discomfort as chief symptom
  - Reproducing prior documented angina; known history of CAD including MI
- Examination
  - Transient MR murmur,
  - Hypotension, diaphoresis,
  - Pulmonary edema, or rales
- ECG
  - New or presumably new transient ST-segment deviation ( $\geq 1$  mm)

# Intermediate Likelihood

Absence of high-likelihood features and presence of any of the following

- History

- Chest or left arm pain or discomfort as chief symptom;
- age >70 years; male sex;
- Diabetes Mellitus

- Examination

- Extracardiac vascular disease,

- ECG

- Fixed Q waves ST depression 0.5 to 1 mm or
- T-wave inversion >1 mm

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- Cardiac markers

- Normal

# Low Likelihood

Absence of high- or intermediate-likelihood features but may have the following

- History

- Probable ischemic symptoms in absence of any intermediate-likelihood characteristics;
- Recent cocaine use

- Examination

- Chest discomfort reproduced by palpation,

- ECG

- T-wave flattening or inversion  $<1$  mm in leads with dominant R waves



# ED treatment

- **M**orphine (3-5 mg IV)

- STEMI Class I

- NSTEMI Class IIa

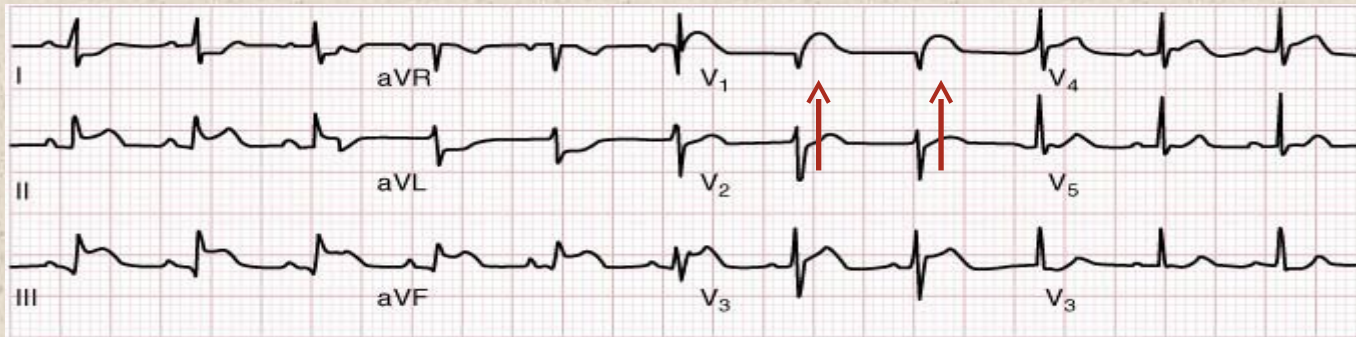
- **O**xygen (if  $<94\%$ )

- **N**itroglycerin

- up to 3 doses (tablets or spray) at intervals of 3 to 5 minutes

- **A**spirin (160 – 325 mg)

# Nitrates?



A

Source: Tintinalli JE, Stapczynski JS, Ma OJ, Cline DM, Cydulka RK, Meckler GD:  
*Tintinalli's Emergency Medicine: A Comprehensive Study Guide, 7th Edition*:  
<http://www.accessmedicine.com>  
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- Nitrates in all forms are contraindicated
  - Patients with initial systolic BP < 90 mm Hg or  $\geq 30$  mm Hg below baseline
  - Patients with right ventricular infarction

# STEMI

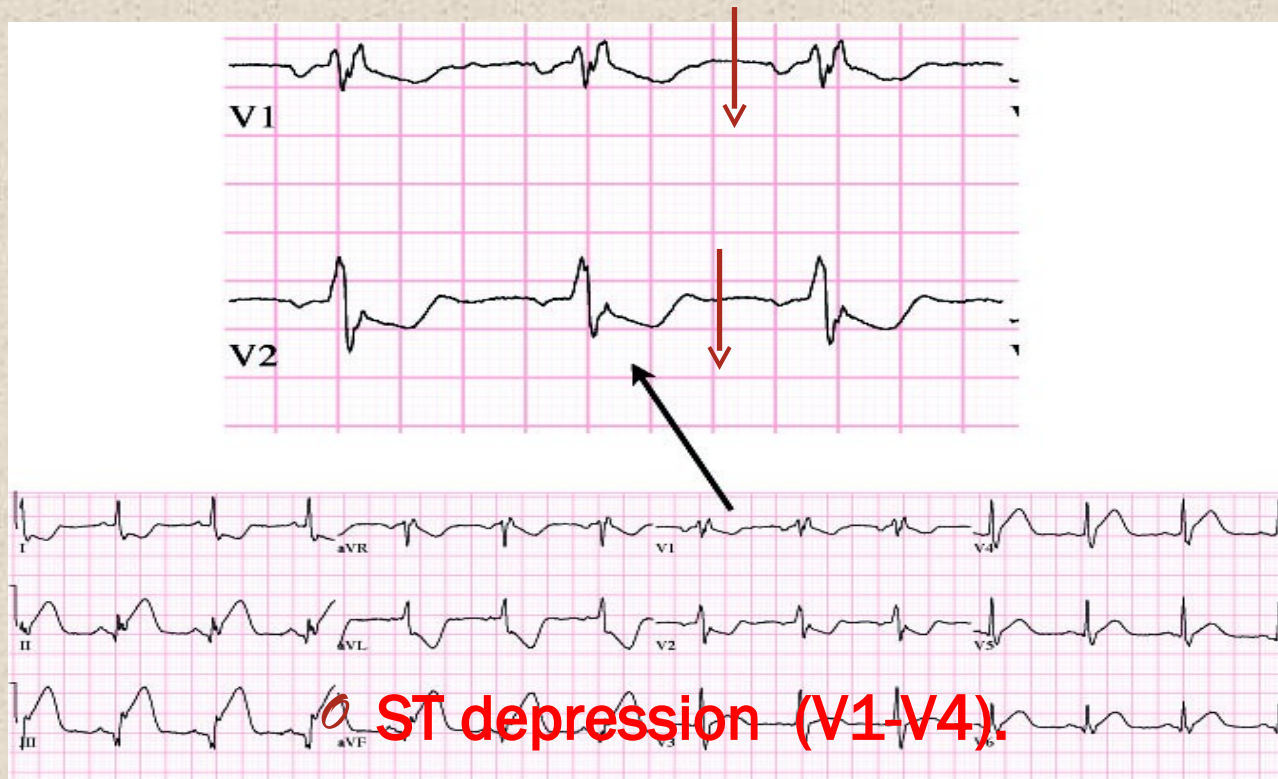
- New ST elevation at the J point
  - in at least 2 contiguous leads of  $\geq 2$  mm (0.2 mV) in men or
  - $\geq 1.5$  mm (0.15 mV) in women in leads V2–V3 and/or
  - of  $\geq 1$  mm (0.1 mV) in other contiguous chest leads or the limb leads



# STEMI

- New or presumably new LBBB has been considered a STEMI equivalent.
- ST depression in  $\geq 2$  precordial leads (V1–V4) may indicate transmural posterior injury

# Posterior MI



○ V1 or V2  $R > S$   
○ (V7-V9) ST elevation



# STEMI treatment

- Reperfusion therapy should be administered to all eligible patients with STEMI with symptom onset within the prior 12 hours(LOE A)
- Primary PCI is the recommended method of reperfusion when it can be performed in a timely fashion by experienced operators(LOE A)



# STEMI treatment

- PCI-capable hospital for primary PCI is the recommended triage strategy for patients with STEMI, with an ideal FMC-to-device time system goal of 90 minutes or less (LOE B)
- Patients with STEMI who initially arrive at or are transported to a non-PCI-capable hospital, with

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an FMC-to-device time system goal of 120

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minutes or less(LOE B)

# STEMI treatment

- When fibrinolytic therapy is indicated or chosen as the primary reperfusion strategy, it should be administered within 30 minutes of hospital arrival(LOE B)
- Primary PCI is reasonable in patients with STEMI if there is clinical and/or ECG

**Table 2. Primary PCI in STEMI**

	COR	LOE	References
Ischemic symptoms <12 h	I	A	(82,208,209)
Ischemic symptoms <12 h and contraindications to fibrinolytic therapy irrespective of time delay from FMC	I	B	(210,211)
Cardiogenic shock or acute severe HF irrespective of time delay from MI onset	I	B	(212–215)
Evidence of ongoing ischemia 12 to 24 h after symptom onset	IIa	B	(94,95)
PCI of a noninfarct artery at the time of primary PCI in patients without hemodynamic compromise	III: Harm	B	(216–218)

COR indicates Class of Recommendation; FMC, first medical contact; HF, heart failure; LOE, Level of Evidence; MI, myocardial infarction; PCI, percutaneous coronary intervention; and STEMI, ST-elevation myocardial infarction.



# Beta blockers

- Oral beta blockers should be initiated in the first 24 hours in patients with STEMI who do not have any of the following:
  - signs of HF, evidence of a low output state,
  - increased risk for cardiogenic shock,
  - or other contraindications to use of oral beta blockers (PR interval more than 0.24

## Antiplatelet Therapy to Support Primary PCI for STEMI

- Aspirin 162 to 325 mg before primary PCI (LOE B).
- A loading dose of a P2Y12 receptor inhibitor as early as possible or at time of primary PCI
  - Clopidogrel 600 mg (LOE B)
  - Prasugrel 60 mg (LOE B)

# Fibrinolytic Agents

- Tenecteplase (TNK-tPA)

- Strong fibrin specificity

- Single IV weight-based bolus

- 30 mg for weight <60 kg;

- 35 mg for 60–69 kg;

- 40 mg for 70–79 kg;

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- 45 mg for 80–89 kg;



# Fibrinolytic Agents

- Reteplase (rPA)

- 10 U+10-U IV boluses given 30 min apart

- Alteplase (tPA)

- 90-min weight-based infusion

- Bolus 15 mg,

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○ infusion 0.75 mg/kg for 30 min (max 50 mg), 44

- 0.5 mg/kg (max 35 mg) over the next 60 min;

# Fibrinolytic Agents

- Streptokinase

- No fibrin specificity

- 1.5 million units IV given over 30–60 min

- no longer marketed in the United States but is available in other countries.

- Streptokinase is absolutely contraindicated

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within 6 mo of previous exposure because of

the potential for serious allergic reaction

# Absolute contraindications for fibrinolytics

- Any prior ICH
- Known structural cerebral vascular lesion (e.g., arteriovenous malformation)
- Known malignant intracranial neoplasm (primary or metastatic)
- Ischemic stroke within 3 mo
- EXCEPT acute ischemic stroke within 4.5 h
- Suspected aortic dissection
- Active bleeding or bleeding diathesis (excluding menses)
- Significant closed-head or facial trauma within 3 mo

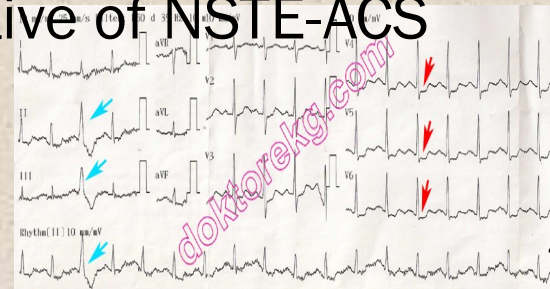


# Relative contraindications for fibrinolytics

- History of chronic, severe, poorly controlled hypertension
- Significant hypertension on presentation (SBP >180 mmHg or DBP >110 mmHg)
- History of prior ischemic stroke >3 mo
- Known intracranial pathology not covered in absolute contraindications
- Traumatic or prolonged (>10 min) CPR
- Major surgery (<3 wk)
- Recent (within 2 to 4 wk) internal bleeding
- Noncompressible vascular punctures

# NSTEMI

- ST-segment depression or transient elevation and/or T-wave changes.
- ST-segment depression  $\geq 0.05$  mV in two or more contiguous leads, in the appropriate clinical context, is suggestive of NSTEMI-ACS and linked to prognosis.

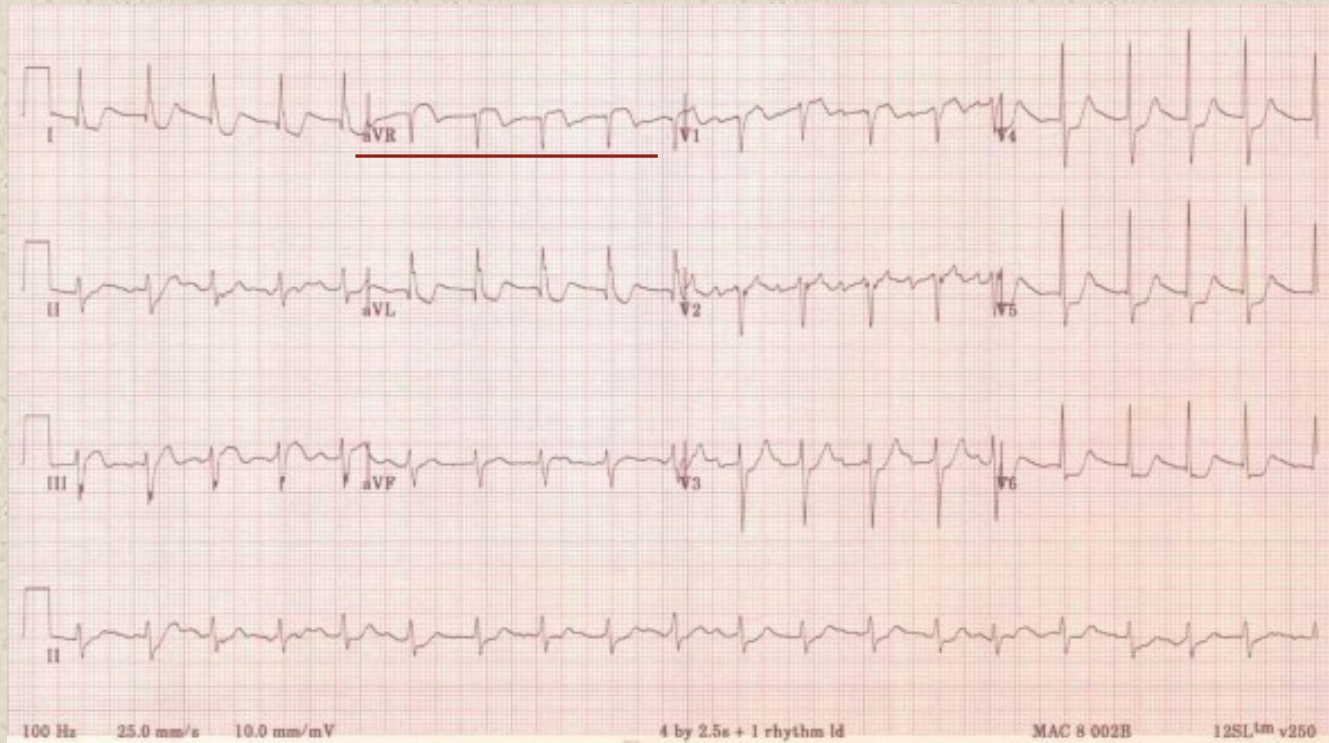


**Table 4** Cardiac and non-cardiac conditions that can mimic non-ST-elevation acute coronary syndromes

Cardiac	Pulmonary	Haematological	Vascular	Gastro-intestinal	Orthopaedic/ infectious
Myocarditis	Pulmonary embolism	Sickle cell crisis	Aortic dissection	Oesophageal spasm	Cervical discopathy
Pericarditis	Pulmonary infarction	Anaemia	Aortic aneurysm	Oesophagitis	Rib fracture
Cardiomyopathy	Pneumonia Pleuritis		Cerebrovascular disease	Peptic ulcer	Muscle injury/ inflammation
Valvular disease	Pneumothorax			Pancreatitis	Costochondritis
Tako-Tsubo cardiomyopathy				Cholecystitis	Herpes zoster
Cardiac trauma					



# aVR is the forgotten ECG lead



# NSTEMI treatment

- IV nitrates are more effective than sublingual nitrates with regard to symptom relief and regression of ST depression.
- The dose should be titrated upwards until symptoms (angina and/or dyspnea) are relieved unless side effects (notably headache or hypotension) occur.



# NSTEMI treatment

- Aspirin reduces the incidence of recurrent MI or death in patients with what was then called unstable angina
- A P2Y12 inhibitor should be added to aspirin as soon as possible and maintained over 12 months, unless there are contraindications such as excessive risk of bleeding



# Treatment summary in ED

- STEMI (PCI)

- Aspirin 150-325 mg PO

- Clopidogrel 600 mg PO

- STEMI (fibrinolytic)

- Aspirin 150-325 mg PO

- Clopidogrel 600 mg PO

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# Treatment summary in ED

## ○ UAP/NSTEMI

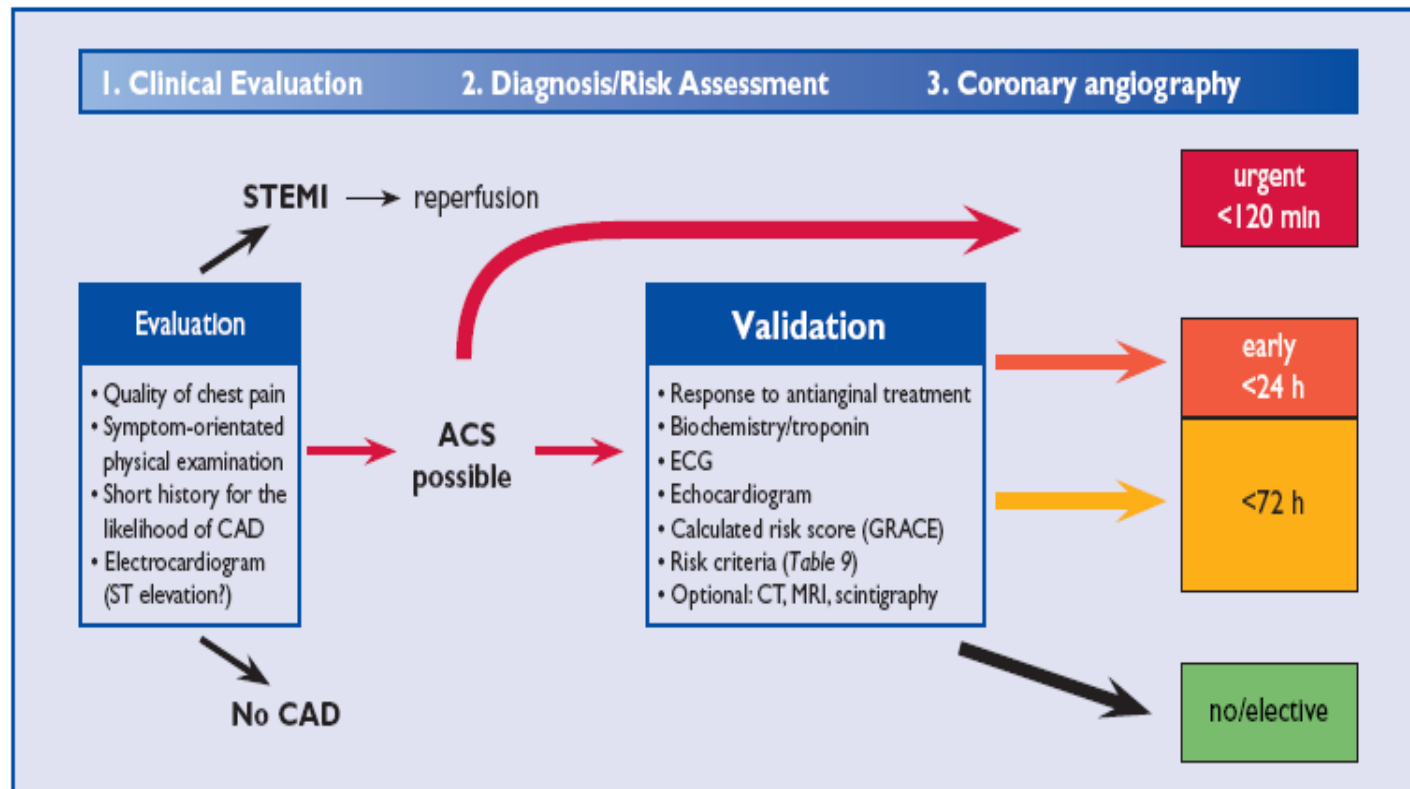
○ Aspirin 162–325 mg PO

○ Clopidogrel of 300–600 mg PO (age<75)

○ Enoxaparin 1 mg/kg every 12 h SC

○ Nitroglycerin Start at 10 micrograms/min IV

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○ Metoprolol 50 milligrams PO every 12 h



**Figure 6** Decision-making algorithm in ACS. ACS = acute coronary syndrome; CAD = coronary artery disease; CT = computed tomography; ECG, electrocardiogram; GRACE = Global Registry of Acute Coronary Events; MRI = magnetic resonance imaging; STEMI = ST-elevation myocardial infarction.



grace global registry of acute Welcome to GRACE GRACE ACS Risk Model GRACE ACS Risk Model

www.outcomes-umassmed.org/grace/acs\_risk/acs\_risk\_content.html

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# ACS Risk Model

At Admission (in-hospital/to 6 months) At Discharge (to 6 months)

Age

HR

SBP

Creat.

CHF

☐ Cardiac arrest at admission

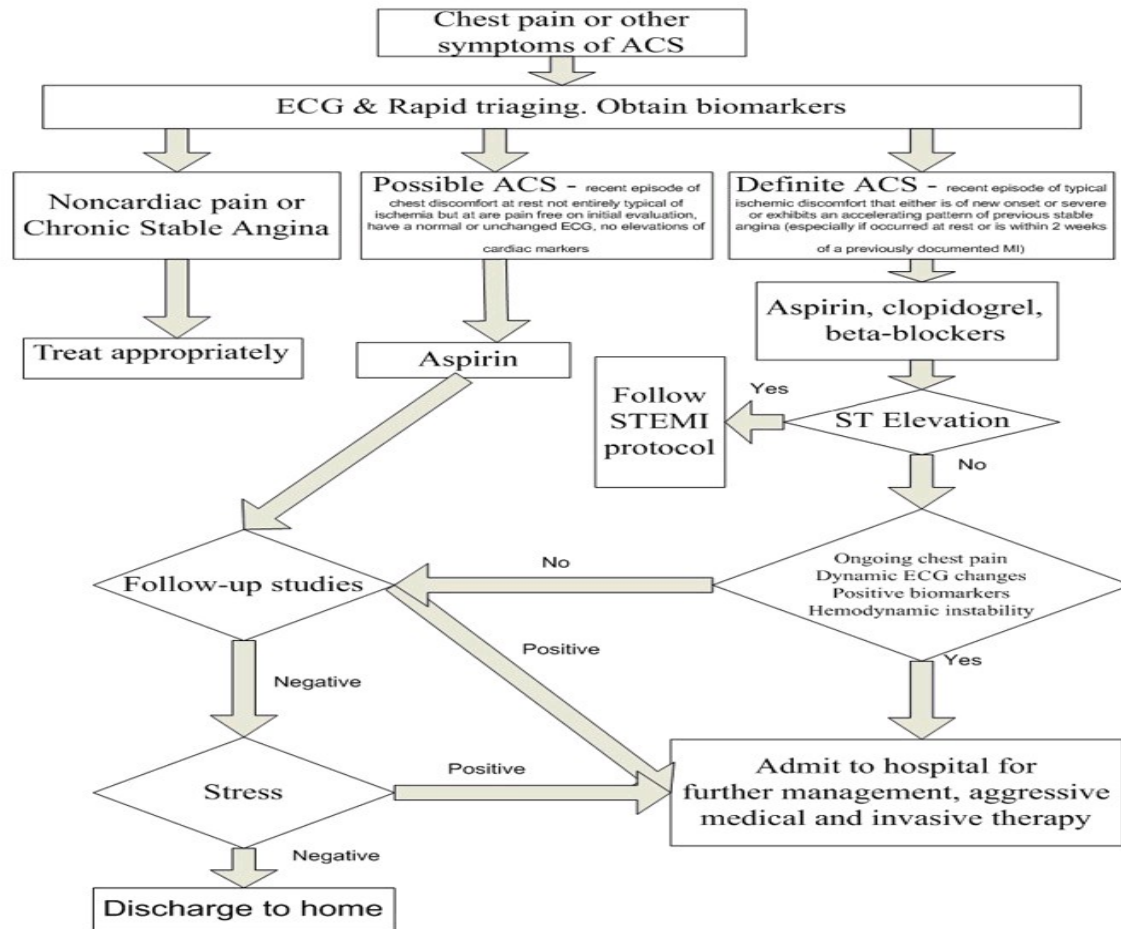
☐ ST-segment deviation

☐ Elevated cardiac enzymes/markers

Probability of	Death	Death or MI
In-hospital	--	--
To 6 months	--	--

Calculator | Instructions | GRACE Info | References | Disclaimer

Başlat AKS ta... ACS Manag... Manag... ESC Gu... GRACE... TR 00:21



# Discharge

- There is no clear rules for safety discharge from ER

- So?

- Age < 40

- Normal serial EKG findings

Turksin-Moore risk factor

- Normal serial cardiac biomarkers





# Take home messages

- In the ED, cardiac risk factors are poor predictors of risk for MI or other ACSs
- Scoring systems are useful for the prognosis of hospitalized patients.
- They are not recommended for ED discharge decision

# Take home messages

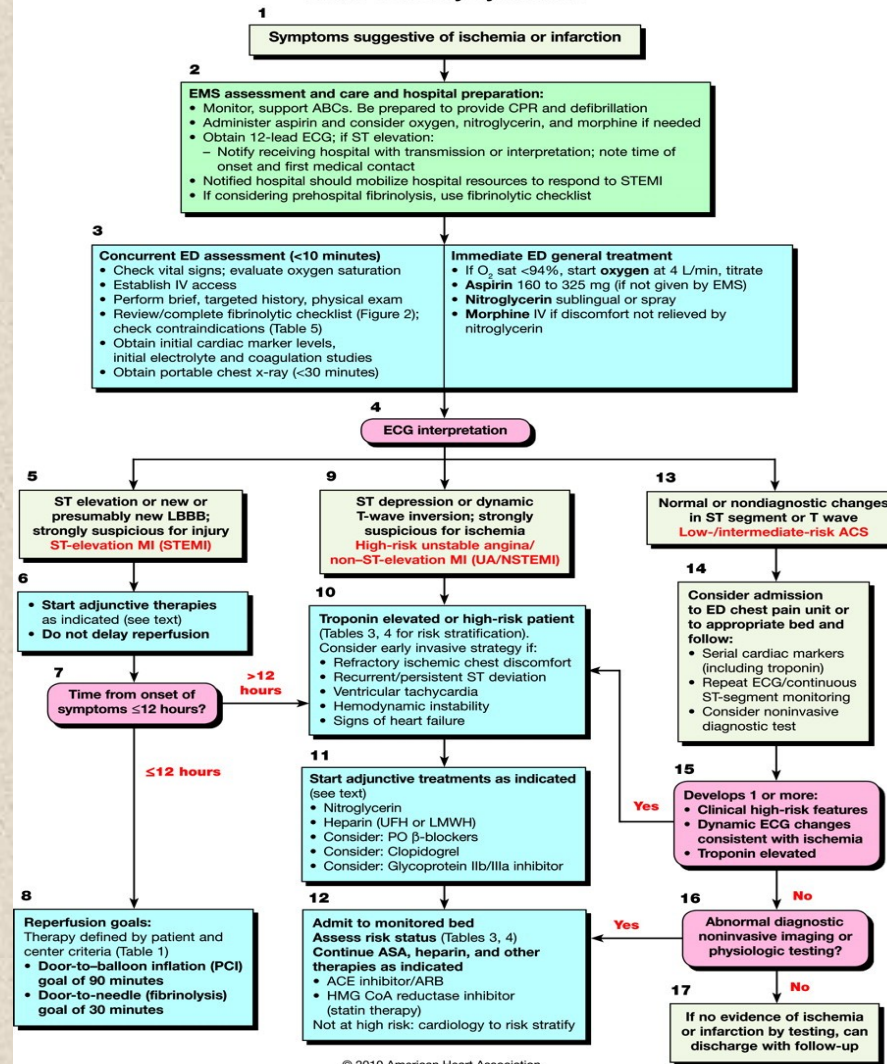
- Evaluate ECG in first 10 min
- Do not forget serial ECG controls
- Be careful for ST - T changes
- Patient could be ACS although not typical chest pain

# Can not rule out ACS

- Low risk group
- Relieved patient with antiacids or NSAID
- Absence of classic risk factors (HT, DM etc.)
- Normal ECHO findings at rest
- Pain at palpation



## Acute Coronary Syndromes



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**EGE ACİL TIP**  
Acil Yaşamaktır

# благодарение



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## References:

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- O'Connor RE, et al. Part 10: acute coronary syndromes: 2010 American Heart Association Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care. Circulation. 2010;2;122:S787-817.