

C050 ADULT CHEST PAIN

Consider life threatening causes of chest pain in all patients

- While assessing ABCs give supplemental oxygen, monitor vital signs, cardiac rhythm, start IV
- **Obtain 12-lead ECG**
- Administer aspirin if history suggests possible cardiac chest pain
 - Consider Air Transport if 30 mile response or greater

| | |
|-------|-----------|
| EMT | AEMT |
| EMT-I | Paramedic |

STEMI?

No Yes

Notify receiving facility immediately if STEMI criteria met

Give SL nitroglycerin if suspected cardiac chest pain and no contraindication

An **EMT** may administer patient's prescribed nitroglycerin, **Contact Base** for verbal order

For hypotension following nitroglycerin give 250 mL NS bolus, reassess, and repeat bolus as needed. Do not give additional nitroglycerin.

Consider opioid for chest pain refractory to nitroglycerin, if no contraindication

- Consider repeat 12-lead if initial 12-lead non-diagnostic and/or patient's condition changes
- Consider additional 12-lead views such as R sided leads for R ventricular infarct if inferior MI present

Life threatening causes of chest pain

- Acute coronary syndrome (ACS)
 - Unstable angina
 - NSTEMI
 - STEMI
- Pulmonary embolism
- Thoracic aortic dissection
- Tension pneumothorax

Nitroglycerin Contraindications

- Suspected right ventricular ST-segment elevation MI (inferior STEMI pattern plus ST elevation in right-sided precordial leads e.g. V4R)
- Hypotension SBP < 100
- Recent use of erectile dysfunction (ED) medication (e.g. Viagra, Cialis)

Causes of Chest Pain in Children:

- Costochondritis
- Pulmonary Causes
 - Ischemia Is rare but can be seen with a history of Kawasaki's disease with coronary aneurysms
- Cyanotic or Congenital Heart Disease
- Myocarditis
- Pericarditis
- Arrhythmia
- Anxiety
- Abdominal Causes