

EKG Acquisition



Common and Atypical STEMI Symptoms

Rapid EKG Criteria

EKG within 10 minutes of
ED arrival or EMS First
Medical Contact!

Any patient with symptoms,
regardless of age, with any
of the following history:

1. Heart disease
2. Diabetes
3. High cholesterol
4. Hypertension
5. Smoking
6. Recent cocaine use

- Chest pain, discomfort, or pressure
- Dyspnea (shortness of breath)
- Arm or shoulder pain (left or right)
- Jaw or neck pain
- Upper back pain
- Epigastric pain or “heartburn”
- Diaphoresis (profuse sweating)
- Nausea or vomiting
- Light-headed or dizzy
- Syncope (fainting)
- Weakness
- Palpitations (heart skips beats)
- Tachycardia (fast heart rate)
- Symptomatic Bradycardia (slow heart rate)

Women, the elderly, and diabetic
patients are more likely to present
with atypical symptoms such as:

- Generalized nausea
- Weakness
- Syncope (fainting)
- Altered mental status

When in doubt, do an EKG!

Immediately show/ transmit EKG to ED physician for a suspected *STEMI.