

ED OBSERVATION UNIT: CHEST PAIN PROTOCOL

NYC H+H KINGS COUNTY HOSPITAL CENTER

General Observation Guidelines apply for all ED observation patients.

INCLUSION CRITERIA	EXCLUSION CRITERIA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary complaint of chest pain • HEART Score 4-6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High risk (HEART ≥ 7) • Positive cardiac enzymes • Clinical impression for alternate high mortality diagnosis (trauma, PE, aortic dissection)

INTERVENTIONS	OPTIONAL INTERVENTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telemetry monitoring • Repeat EKG for active or worsening chest pain • Troponins trended x 2-3 measurements • Routine cardiology consults or inpatient stress testing is not indicated • Routine ECHOs are not indicated • Aspirin (if not done and no contraindications) • Referral to cardiology clinic within 72 hours for higher risk patients 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nitroglycerin • Supplemental oxygen • Chest X-ray

DISPOSITION	
Home: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal cardiac enzymes • Negative stress testing (if performed) • No significant EKG changes • ED attending not suspecting cardiac ischemia 	Admission: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive cardiac enzymes • Worsening or lack of improvement • Significant EKG changes • Significant stress test abnormality

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Authored by A. Cai MD

Revised by T. Ahmad MD, R. Balakrishnan MD, A. Cai, MD, and S. Brewster MD

Reviewed by I. Desouza MD, R. Sinert MD

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Sources

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