**Chest Pain (CP)/Shortness of Breath (SOB) EM Module**

Outline and learning objectives for this module:

1. State the important differential diagnoses for the patient presenting to the ED with CP/SOB.
2. Be able to run through the resuscitation of critically ill CP and SOB patients
3. State the Pertinent positives/negatives in the history and physical examination for each important differential diagnosis and be able to appropriately document it in the ED note and oral presentation.
4. To learn the appropriate use of clinical prediction rules in the assessment and risk stratification of patients presenting with CP/SOB (e.g. Wells, PERC, TIMI, etc)
5. To learn the appropriate ED management of patients presenting with CP/SOB including appropriate diagnostic tests and therapeutic interventions.
6. To learn the appropriate disposition of patients presenting with CP/SOB.
7. Be able to use the medical literature and podcasts/blogs to identify high quality evidence for the management of ED patients with CP/SOB.
8. To promote the use of medical podcasts in the dissemination of information.

**Instructions for this module:**

Below are the most common and most relevant differential diagnoses to consider for the patient presenting to the ED with chest pain and/or shortness of breath. Your goal for this module, therefore, is to appreciate the assessment, risk stratification, and management of these **high risk patients**. With this broad objective in mind, you are encouraged to use any resource available to you to ensure that for each disease process you understand:

* The basic epidemiology of the disease
* Basic pathophysiology
* Clinical presentation
* The appropriate findings to elicit in the H and PE
* The appropriate initial work up and ED management
* The appropriate disposition (i.e. when to admit to inpatient versus observation units and when to discharge home with close follow up)

Below are popular Podcasts that are concise and very informative which you can explore to help you answer these questions. Alternatively, you can use a text book of your choice. As adult learners you will do the studying on your own, and together we will be applying your findings and other important concepts together in small group case-based discussions and simulations. Enjoy the learning process!

**Important Differential Diagnoses to Consider throughout this module**

1. Acute Coronary Syndromes
2. Acute Aortic Syndromes
3. Pulmonary Embolism
4. Pneumothorax
5. Congestive Heart Failure
6. Pneumonia
7. Acute Pericarditis
8. Cardiac Tamponade
9. Asthma Exacerbation
10. COPD Exacerbation

**Recommended EM Blog/Podcast Sites:**

1. EMRAP
   1. Cardiology Corner- chest pain history. September 2012
   2. Shortness of Breath: Anaphylaxis, CHF, and asthma. April 2010
2. Amal Mattu
   1. Recent Articles in Chest pain, February 2013
3. SMART EM
4. EM CRIT
5. EM Literature of Note
6. The NNT
7. EM BASIC (Great for an interview of things ranging from documentation to high yield chief complaints)
8. Life in the Fasts Lane
9. The Crashing Patient
10. The Skeptics Guide to EM
11. Academic Life in Emergency Medicine
12. EM Lyceum

**Recommended Textbooks/Journals:**

1. Rosen’s
   1. Chapter 17: Dyspnea-Sabina Braithwaite and Debra Perina
   2. Chapter 18: Chest Pain-James E. Brown and Glenn C. Hamilton
2. Tintinalli’s
3. Annals of Emergency Medicine
4. Emergency Medicine Clinics of North America