

Acute Cardiology Cardiac Emergencies

- Cardiologist
- Faculty members of medical sciences



Acute Cardiology: Cardiac Emergencies

- **Definition:**

-
-
-

Clinical endpoints:

Physiopathology:

A- Low cardiac output and systemic hypotension

B- Severe myocardial ischemia and

and morbidity



Acute Cardiology: Symptoms

Diagnosis of cardiac emergencies:

Main symptoms:

- 6- Syncope
- 7- Sudden death



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Acute Cardiology

Physical examination

CLINICAL KEY POINTS OF PHYSICAL EXAMS:

- History.

1. Blood pressure:

2. Peripheral pulses:

3. Signs of systemic hypoperfusion: Consciousness, skin, urinary output.

4. General posture of the patient: In supine position, pale, sweating.

5. Killip class. (I-IV).



Chest Pain

Classification of myocardial ischemia

1- Transient myocardial ischemia

2- Long lasting myocardial ischemia
symptomatic/asymptomatic

3- Sudden death.

SCD Predictors: Syncope, arrhythmia, left ventricular dysfunction.



Main Causes of Chest Discomfort and Pain:

A- Cardiac:

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B- Anginal Equivalents:

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- Shoulder or arm discomfort, particularly at the forearm and hand.
- Epigastric discomfort.
- Back (interscapular) discomfort.



C- Noncardiac Causes of Chest Pain:

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-
- Pulmonary hypertension.



Characterization of chest pain Probability of MI, ischemia:

TABLE 50-2 Value of Elements of the Chest Pain History for the Diagnosis of Acute Coronary Syndrome

PAIN DESCRIPTOR	POSITIVE LIKELIHOOD RATIO (95% CI)
Increased Likelihood of AMI	
Radiation to the right arm or shoulder	4.7 (1.9-12.0)
Radiation to both arms or shoulders	4.1 (2.5-6.5)
Associated with exertion	2.4 (1.5-3.8)
Radiation to the left arm	2.3 (1.7-3.1)
Associated with diaphoresis	2.0 (1.9-2.2)
Associated with nausea or vomiting	1.9 (1.7-2.3)
Worse than previous angina or similar to previous MI	1.8 (1.6-2.0)
Described as pressure	1.3 (1.2-1.5)
Decreased Likelihood of AMI	
Described as pleuritic	0.2 (0.1-0.3)
Described as positional	0.3 (0.2-0.5)
Described as sharp	0.3 (0.2-0.5)
Reproducible with palpation	0.3 (0.2-0.4)
Inframammary location	0.8 (0.7-0.9)
Not associated with exertion	0.8 (0.6-0.9)

AMI = acute myocardial infarction; CI = confidence interval.

Modified from Swap CJ, Nagurny JT: Value and limitations of chest pain history in the evaluation of patients with suspected acute coronary syndromes. JAMA 294:2623, 2005.

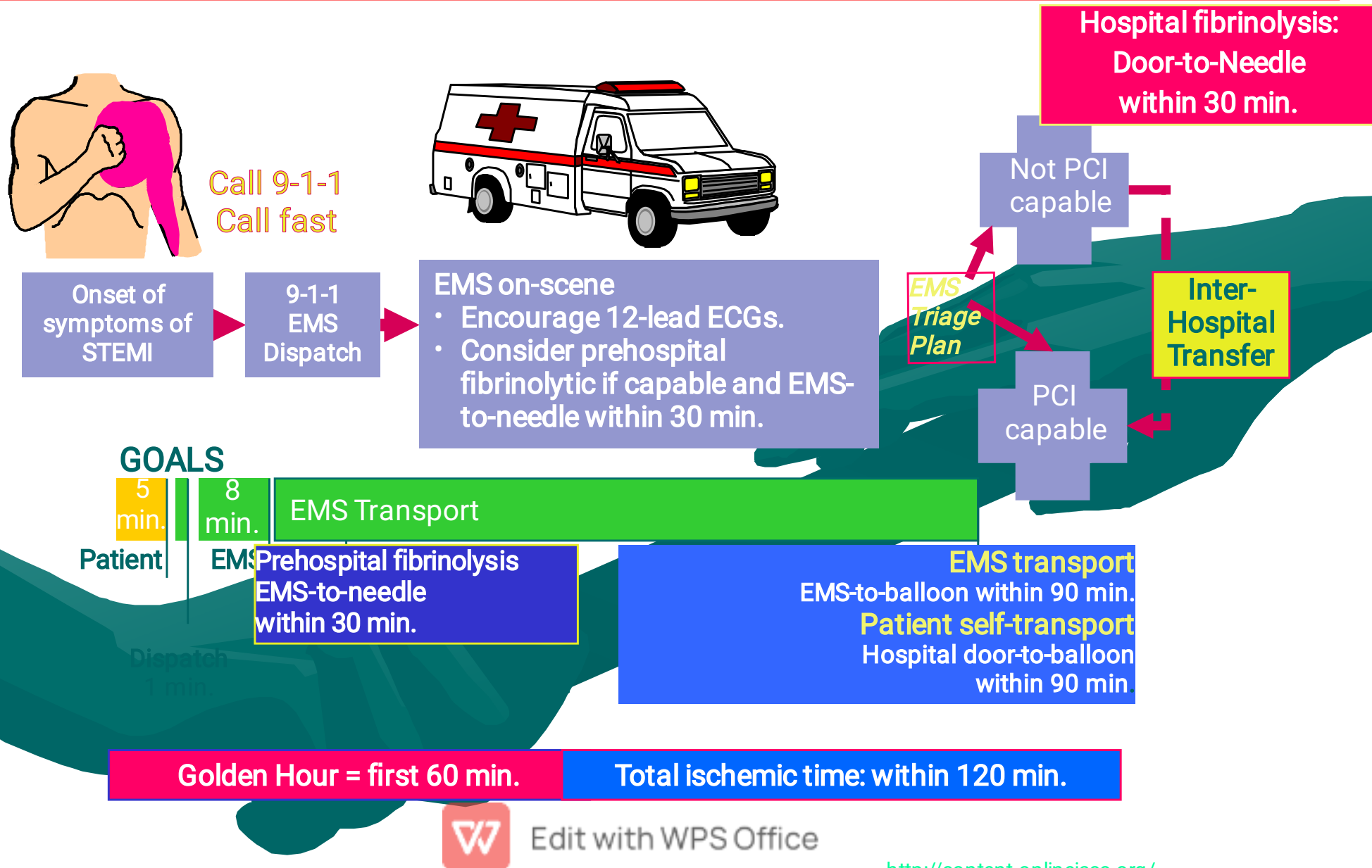
Diagnosis: “Non-Anginal Pain”:

- Major characteristics of “Non-Anginal Pain”:

1. Pain is not related to exertion.
2. Pain is not related to the abdominal or mandibular region.
3. Pain is not related to the chest.
4. Pain is not related to the palpation of pectoral muscles.
5. Pain is not related to the palpation of the chest.
6. Instantaneous pain.



Options for Transport of Patients With STEMI and Initial Reperfusion Treatment



Acute and new onset MI (AMI):

Key of the definition: to be present of myocardial necrosis evidences on the persistan myocardial iashemia milieu.

Diagnosis: At least one of the criteria below:

1. Elevated Biomarkers.

- - Troponin: Typical elevation and then delayed typical fall.
- - CK/CK-MB: Rapid elevation and fall.

2. Biomarker elevation in the prescence of two of the criteria below:

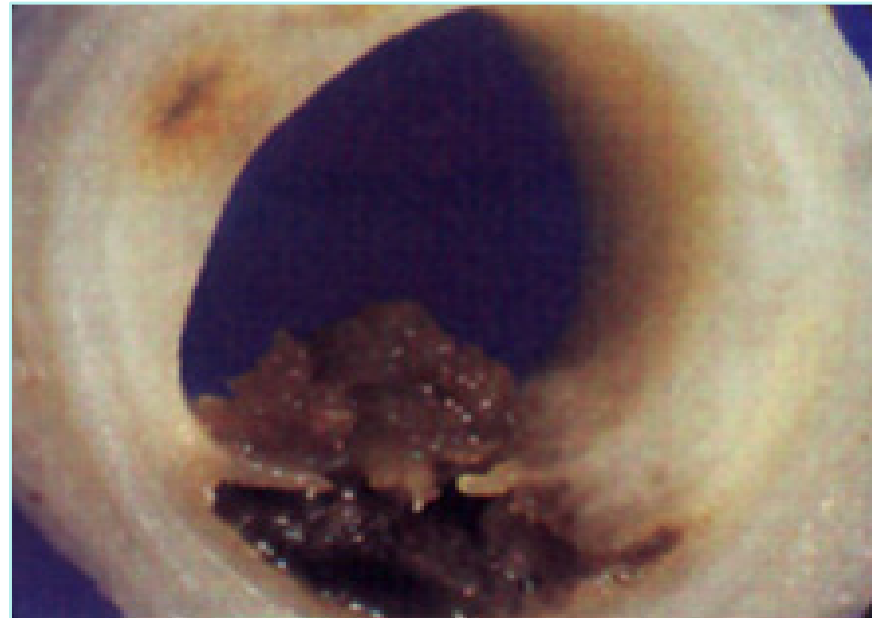
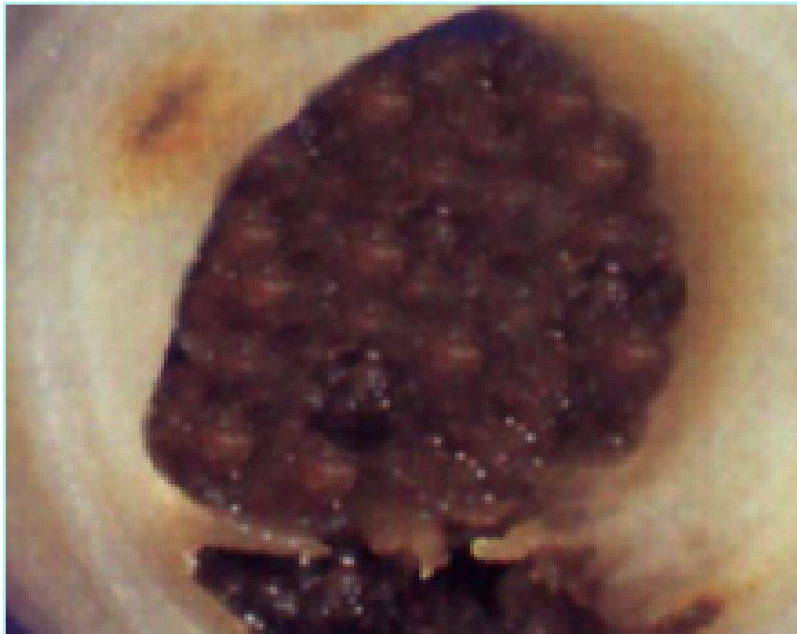
a- ECG and ischemic symptoms.

b- Old MI: Q waves on ECG.

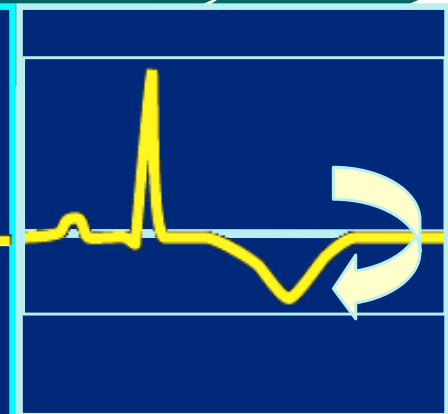
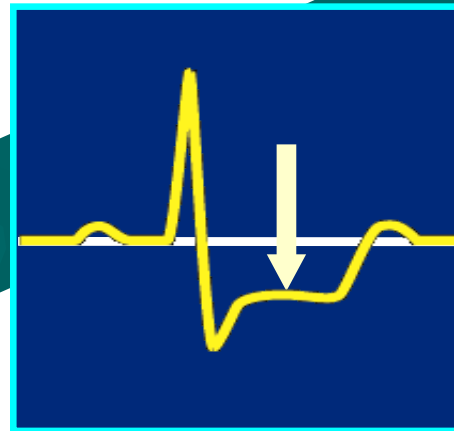
c- ECG findings of acute ischemia: ST- T wave changes. (ST elevation, depression, new LBBB).

d-





Patology: Total occlusive/Nonocclusive thrombus



Normal

(X)

necrosis



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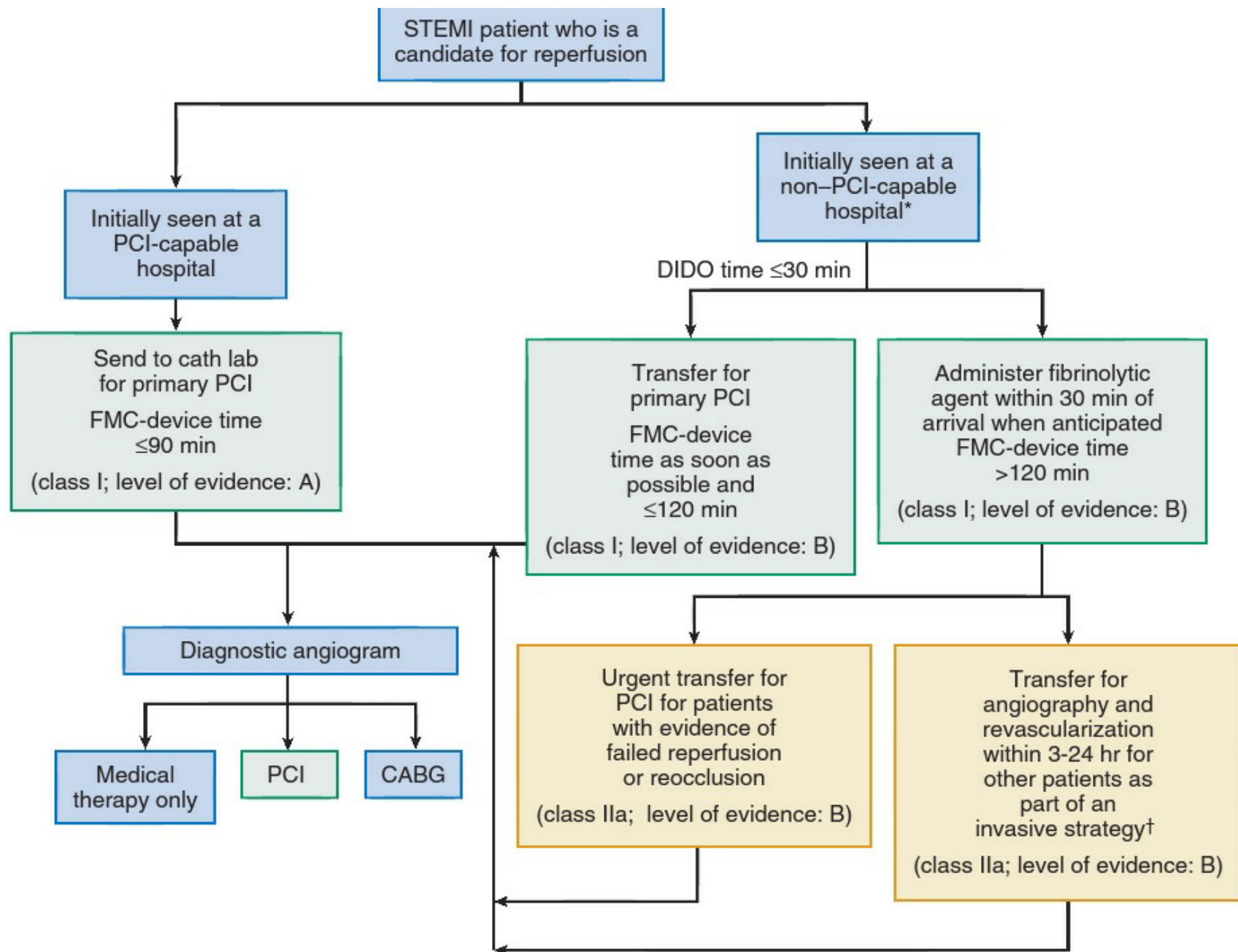


FIGURE 52G-1 Reperfusion therapy for patients with STEMI. The **bold arrows** and **boxes** are the preferred strategies. Performance of PCI is dictated by an anatomical appropriate culprit stenosis. *Patients with cardiogenic shock or severe heart failure initially seen at a non-PCI-capable hospital should be transferred for cardiac catheterization and revascularization as soon as possible, irrespective of the delay in time after the onset of MI (class I; Level of evidence: B). †Angiography and revascularization should not be performed within the first 2 to 3 hours after the administration of fibrinolytic therapy. DIDO = door in-door out. (Modified from O’Gara PT, Kushner FC, Ascheim DD, et al: 2013 ACCF/AHA guideline for the management of ST-elevation myocardial infarction: A report of the American College of Cardiology Foundation American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines. Circulation 127:e362, 2013.)

Clinical Assessment

- Quality of chest pain
- Symptom-oriented physical examination
- Short history for the likelihood of CAD

No CAD

NSTE-ACS
possible

STEMI
immediate reperfusion

- Routine clinical chemistry, particularly troponins (on initial evaluation and after 6-12 hr) and other markers according to working diagnoses (e.g., D-dimers, BNP, NT-proBNP)
- Repeated, preferably continuous, ST-segment monitoring
- Echocardiogram, MRI, CT, or nuclear imaging for differential diagnoses (e.g., aortic dissection, pulmonary embolism)
- Assess responsiveness to antianginal treatment
- Risk score assessment

Urgent invasive <120 min

Refractory angina
Recurrent angina despite intense antianginal treatment associated with ST depression (≥ 2 min) or deep negative T waves
Clinical symptoms of heart failure or hemodynamic instability
Life-threatening arrhythmias (ventricular fibrillation or ventricular tachycardia)

Early invasive <72 hrs

Elevated troponin levels
Dynamic ST or T wave changes
Diabetes mellitus
Reduced renal function (GFR < 60 mL/min/1.73 m²)
Depressed LVEF $< 40\%$
Early post-MI angina
PCI within 6 months
Prior CABG
Intermediate to high risk according to a risk score

Conservative

No recurrence of chest pain
No signs of heart failure
No abnormalities on the initial ECG or a second ECG (6 to 12 hr)
No elevation of troponins (arrival and at 6 to 12 hr)

FIGURE 53-8 Decision-making algorithm for the management of NSTE-ACS. CABG = coronary artery bypass grafting; GFR = glomerular filtration rate; LVEF = left ventricular ejection fraction. (From Bassand JP, Hamm CW: Diagnosis and treatment of non-ST-segment elevation acute coronary syndromes: European Society of Cardiology guidelines. Eur Heart J 32:369, 2011.)

Acute Dyspnea:

- (A) Cardiac dyspnea:

-
-
-
-
-
-

- (B) Pulmonary causes:

- 2- Pneumonia
- 3- Pulmonary embolus, fat embolism
- 4- Acute Respiratory Distress



Heart Failure

Diagnosis :

- A-
- B-
- C-

Ancillary Markers:

Response to diuretic



Management of Heart Failure

STEP- 1: Diagnosis:

STEP- 2: Clinical Profile:

STEP- 3: Etiology. -Advanced evaluation.

STEP- 4: Precipitating Factors: Anemia, Inf
ischemia, HTA crisis

Tiroid disorder, drugs (NSAI, Ster

STEP- 5,6: Evaluation of prognosis.



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Sudden Cardiac Death: SCD

Definition:

- (1)
- (2) The initiation of the death is not known.

Key for definition:

- (a) Natural nature of event.
- (b) Sudden and unexpected.



CARDIAC ARREST

Definition:

The most frequent mechanism of SCD:

(a)

(b)

Unfrequent): Pulseless
ventricular fibrillation (due to cardiac



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Cardiovascular Causes of SCD:



Electrical Causes of SCD:

- (a)
- (b)
- (c)
- (d)
- (e)



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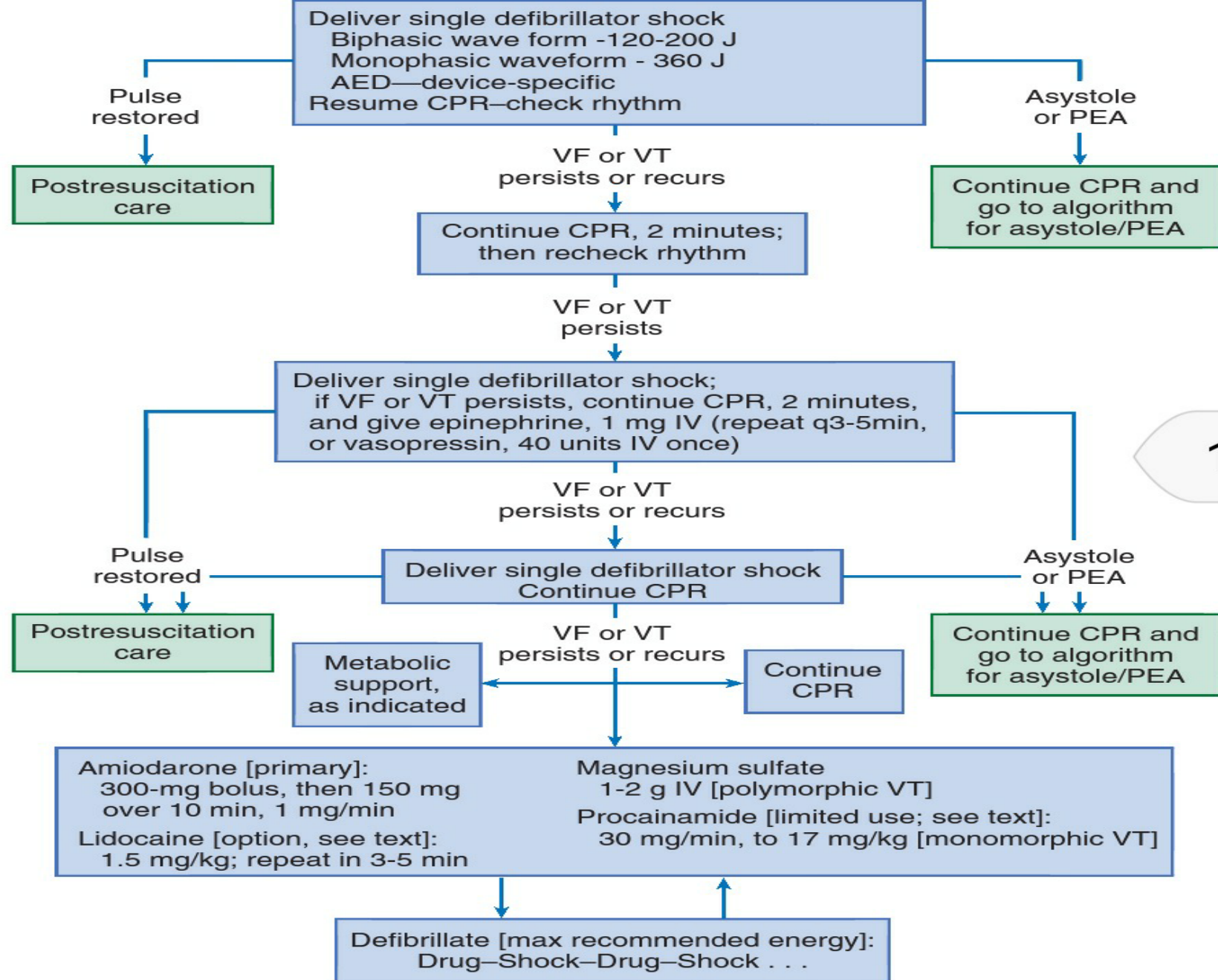


FIGURE 39-17 Advanced life support for VF and pulseless VT. If initial defibrillation fails, the patient should be intubated and intravenous access established immediately while CPR is continued. Epinephrine, 1 mg intravenously, should be administered and may be repeated several times with additional defibrillation attempts at 360 J. If conversion is still unsuccessful, epinephrine may be administered again, although it is unlikely that higher doses will provide any further benefit. Sodium bicarbonate should be administered at this time only if the patient is known to be hyperkalemic, and intravenous antiarrhythmic drugs should be tried (see text). Additional attempts to defibrillate should follow the administration of each drug attempted. Concomitant with all steps, continuation of CPR is paramount. (Modified from 2010 American Heart Association Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care Science. *Circulation* 122[Suppl 3]:S640, 2010.)

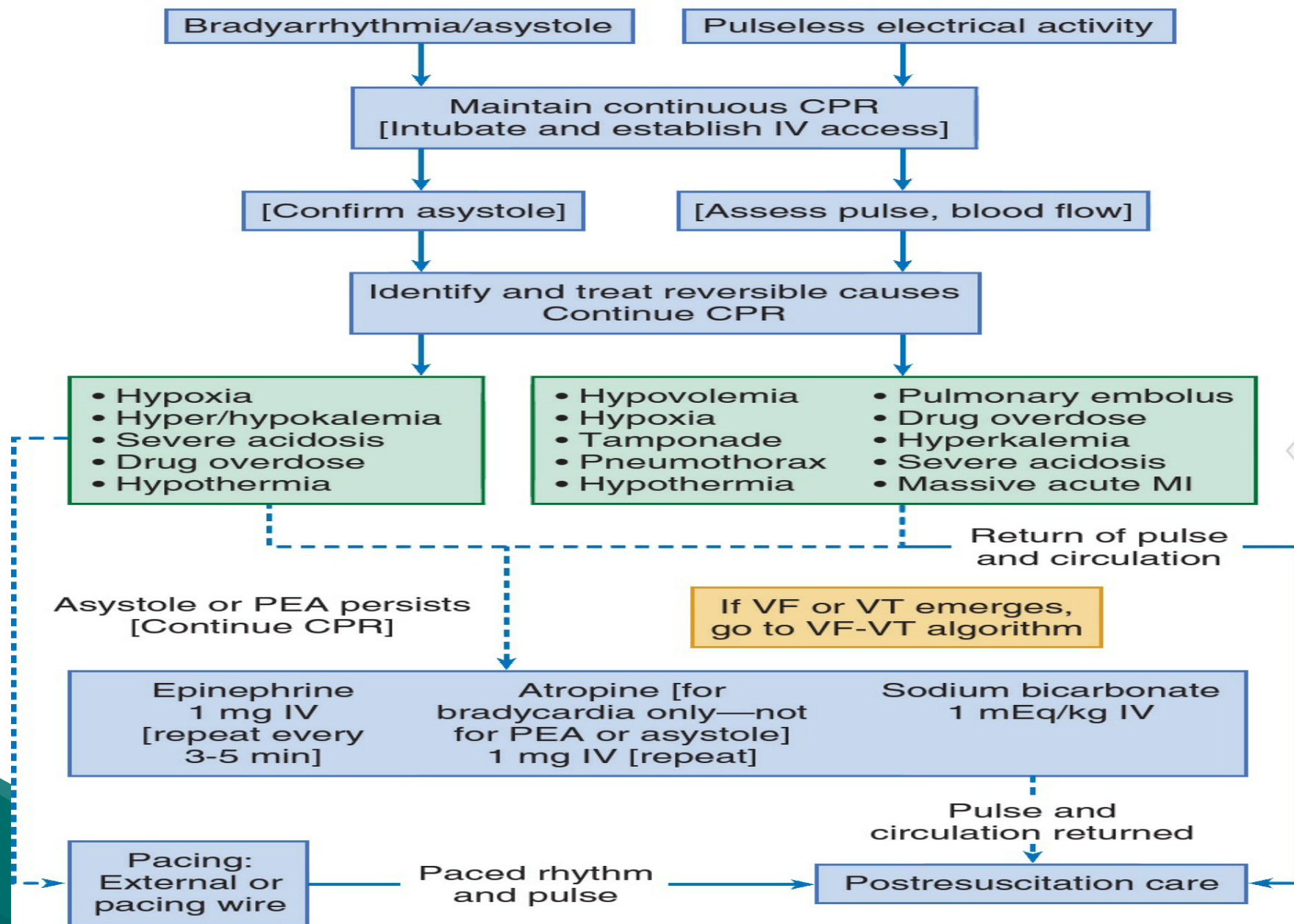


FIGURE 39-18 Advanced cardiac life support for patients with bradyarrhythmic-asystolic arrest and PEA. A patient in any of these states should have CPR continued and be intubated, with intravenous access established, before pharmacologic treatment. The initial activity is to confirm persisting asystole or attempt to assess blood flow in patients thought to have PEA. An immediate attempt should be made to identify and treat reversible or treatable causes of these forms of cardiac arrest. Epinephrine is generally administered first, and atropine or bicarbonate, or both, may be administered subsequently. An attempt to pace the heart with an external device or an intracardiac pacing catheter is advisable although not usually successful, except for certain reversible bradyarrhythmias. MI = myocardial infarction. (From 2010 American Heart Association Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care Science. *Circulation* 122[Suppl 3]:S640, 2010.)

Neurocardiogenic syncope

Definition:

ABC of syncope:

A- **Association:** A clinical picture of syncope that is associated with a specific stimulus or situation.

B- **Course:** A sudden, transient loss of consciousness, then spontaneous recovery.

C- **Mechanism:** Sudden / short interval of hypotension.



Neurocardiogenic Syncope: Cardiac Causes.

- **Anatomic causes:**

- Aortic stenosis
- Hypertrophic CMP
- Miocardial ischemia /AMI
- Aortic dissection

- Atrial mixoma

- Pulmonary emboli
- Subclavian steal send.

- Fallot tetralogy.

- **Arrhythmic causes:**

- Tachyarrhythmia
- Long QT send.
- - Brugada send.
- Bradyarrhythmia.
- - Atrioventricular



Neurocardiogenic syncope: Absolute diagnostic criteria.

- Vasovagal Syncope.
- Situational syncope: during or after exertion, during or after eating or swallowing.
- Orthostatic Syncope: during or after standing or after prolonged sitting or lying down.

Documentation of orthostatic syncope: decrease in Systolic BP > 40 mmHg or Diastolic BP > 90 mmHg.

Presyncope ("near- syncope): condition in which syncope imminent



Cardiac ischemia related syncope

Arrhythmia syncope was diagnosed by ECG when there is:

sinus pauses >
negative chronotropic

lock.
lock.

e- Piv... on.



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Cardiogenic Shock

- Definition:

- (1)
- (2)

- Characteristics:

-
-
-

- Clinical findings and diagnosis:

- (a) Pump failure, and clinical signs and symptoms
- (b) SBP: $<90\text{mmHg}$, urine output
- (c) Exclusion of other causes
- (d) Clinical shock. (loss of



HYPERTENSIVE CRISIS

- Hypertensive Emergency - Hypertensive Crisis:
-
- Basic Principle:
- (a) $\geq 180/120$ mmHg than measured BP. (b) $\geq 160/100$ mmHg with evidence of organ injury or dysfunction.
- Associated; retinal hemorrhage, papilloedema, renal dysfunction, acute myocardial infarction, hypertensive encephalopathy.
- Principle of management:
- Arterial BP must fall within



TABLE 44-13 Recommended Treatment of Hypertensive Emergencies by End-Organ Involved

TYPE OF EMERGENCY	TIMELINE, TARGET BLOOD PRESSURE	FIRST-LINE THERAPY	ALTERNATIVE THERAPY
Hypertensive crisis with retinopathy, microangiopathy, or acute renal insufficiency	Several hours, MAP –20% to –25%	Labetalol	Nitroprusside Nicardipine Urapidil
Hypertensive encephalopathy	Immediate, MAP –20% to –25%	Labetalol	Nicardipine Nitroprusside
Acute aortic dissection	Immediate, SBP < 110 mm Hg	Nitroprusside + metoprolol	Labetalol
Acute pulmonary edema	Immediate, MAP 60 to 100 mm Hg	Nitroprusside with loop diuretic	Nitroglycerin Urapidil with loop diuretic
Acute coronary syndrome	Immediate, MAP 60 to 100 mm Hg	Nitroglycerin	Labetalol
Acute ischemic stroke and BP >220/120 mm Hg	1 hour, MAP –15%	Labetalol	Nicardipine Nitroprusside
Cerebral hemorrhage and SBP >180 mm Hg or MAP >130 mm Hg	1 hour, SBP < 180 mm Hg and MAP <130 mm Hg	Labetalol	Nicardipine Nitroprusside
Acute ischemic stroke with indication for thrombolytic therapy and BP >185/110 mm Hg	1 hour, MAP less than –15%	Labetalol	Nicardipine Nitroprusside
Cocaine/XTC intoxication	Several hours, SBP < 140 mm Hg	Phentolamine (after benzodiazepines)	Nitroprusside
Pheochromocytoma crisis	Immediate	Phentolamine	Nitroprusside Urapidil
Perioperative hypertension during or after CABG	Immediate	Nicardipine	Urapidil Nitroglycerin
During or after craniotomy	Immediate	Nicardipine	Labetalol
Severe preeclampsia/eclampsia	Immediate, BP < 160/105 mm Hg	Labetalol (plus MgSO ₄ and oral antihypertensives)	Ketanserin Nicardipine

CABG = coronary artery bypass graft; MAP = mean arterial pressure; MgSO₄ = magnesium sulfate; XTC = Ecstasy.

Modified from van den Born BJ, Beutler JJ, Gaillard CA, et al: *Guideline for the management of hypertensive crisis—2010 revision*. *Neth J Med* 69:248, 2011.



AORTIC DISSECTION

Signs of clinical diagnosis:

a-

Complications:

(c) **Ascending aorta** (new onset AD, aortic root)

Ischemic neuropathy at lower extremities: Signs

Gold standard of diagnosis: TEE, CT, Angiography .



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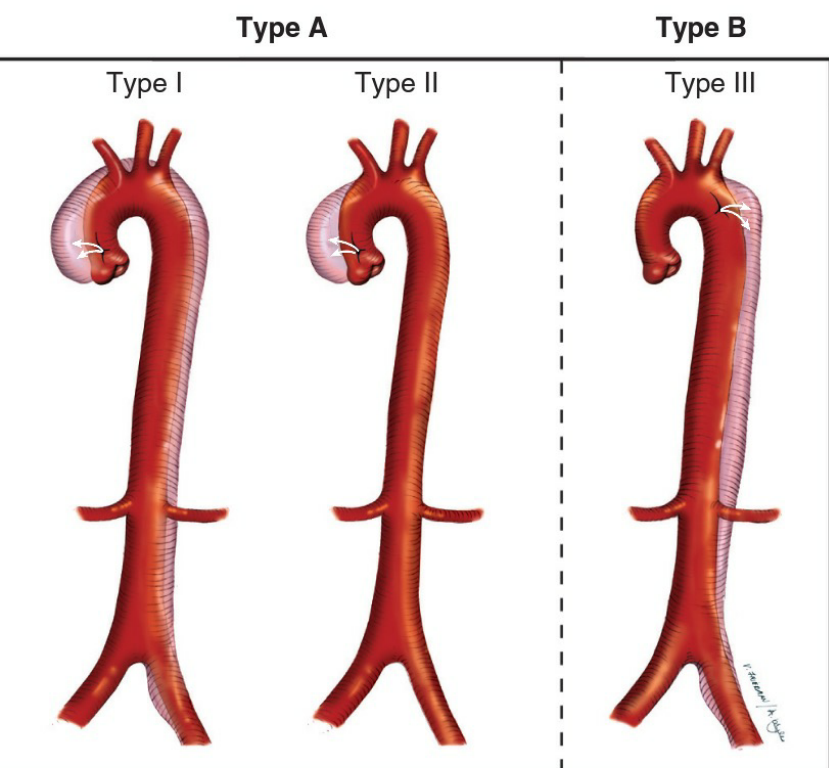


FIGURE 57-11 Classification schemes of acute aortic dissection.

TABLE 57-4 Classification Schemes of Acute Aortic Dissection

DeBakey Classification

Type I	Originates in the ascending aorta and extends at least to the aortic arch and often to the descending aorta (and beyond)
Type II	Originates in the ascending aorta and confined to this segment
Type III	Originates in the descending aorta, usually just distal to the left subclavian artery, and extends distally

Stanford Classification

Type A	Dissections involving the ascending aorta (with or without extension into the descending aorta)
Type B	Dissections not involving the ascending aorta



TABLE 57-6 Organ System Complications of Acute Aortic Dissection

Cardiovascular	- Cardiac arrest - Syncope - Aortic regurgitation - Congestive heart failure - Coronary ischemia - Myocardial infarction - Cardiac tamponade - Pericarditis
Pulmonary	- Pleural effusion - Hemothorax - Hemoptysis (from an aortotracheal or bronchial fistula)
Renal	- Acute renal failure - Renovascular hypertension - Renal ischemia or infarction
Neurologic	- Stroke - Transient ischemic attack - Paraparesis or paraplegia - Encephalopathy - Coma - Spinal cord syndrome - Ischemic neuropathy
Gastrointestinal	- Mesenteric ischemia or infarction - Pancreatitis - Hemorrhage (from an aortoenteric fistula)
Peripheral vascular	Upper or lower extremity ischemia
Systemic	Fever



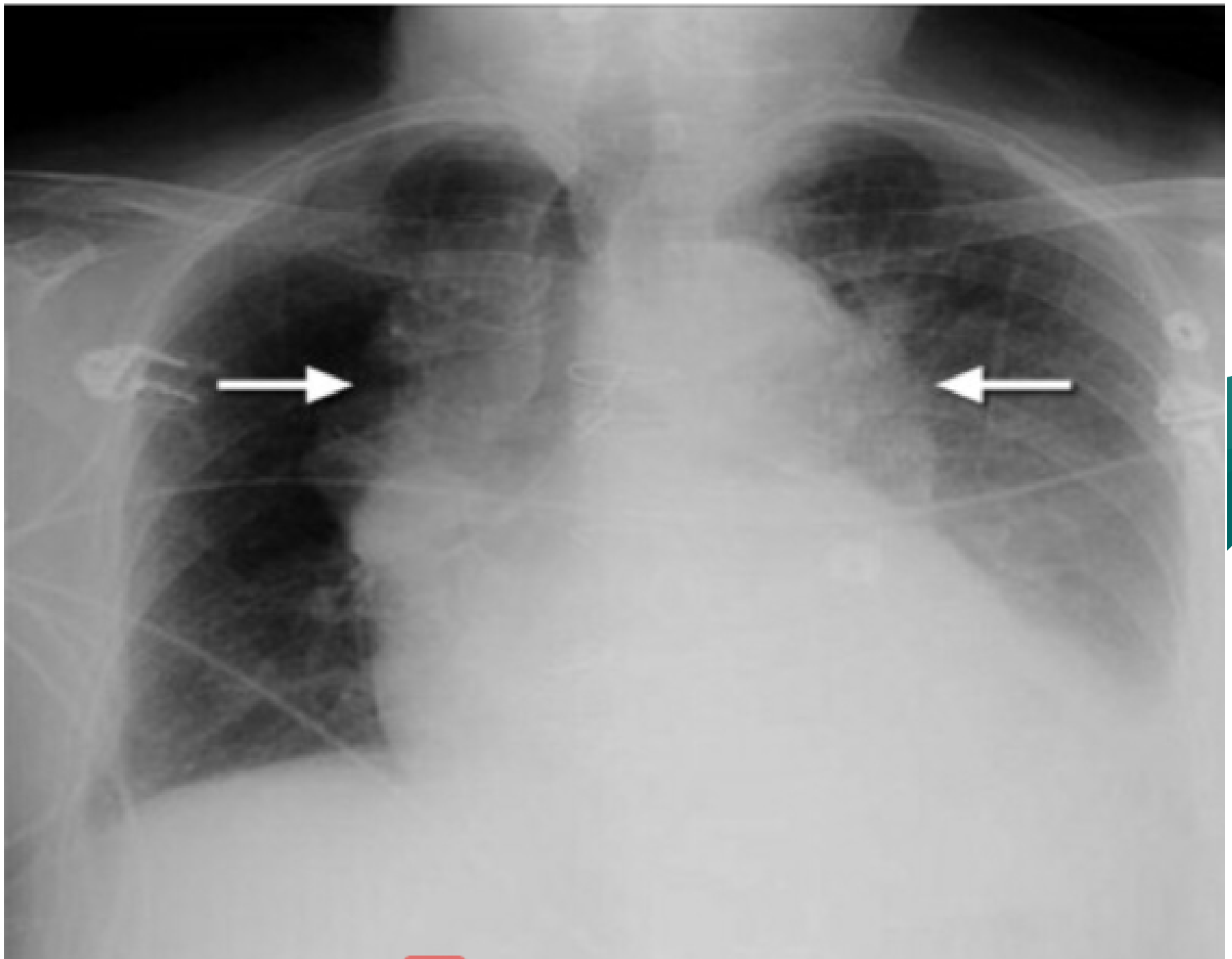


FIGURE e57-7



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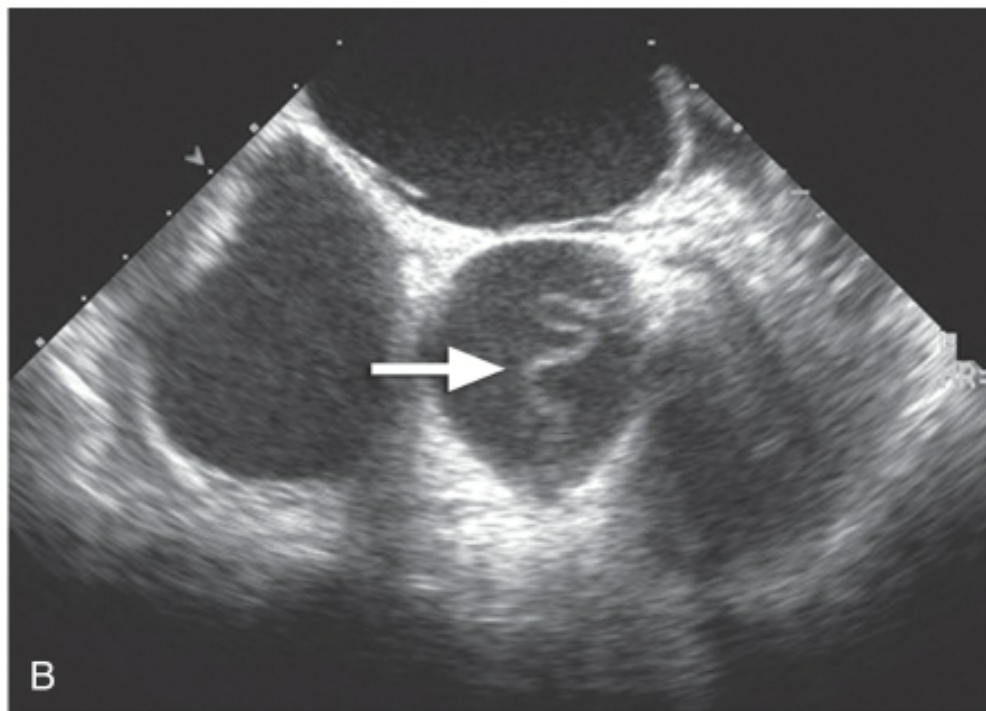
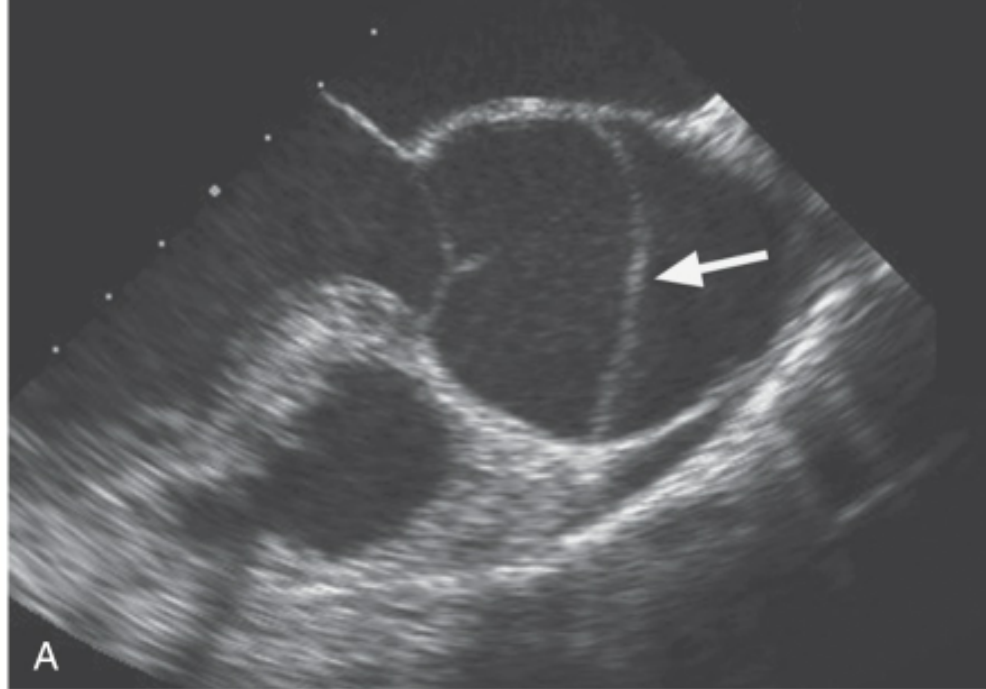


FIGURE 57-15 TEE showing acute aortic dissection. **A**, Acute type A dissection in a patient with MFS. The dissection flap (arrow) is present in the dilated aortic root. **B**, Serpiginous intimal flap (arrow) immediately distal to the aortic valve in a patient with a type A aortic dissection.

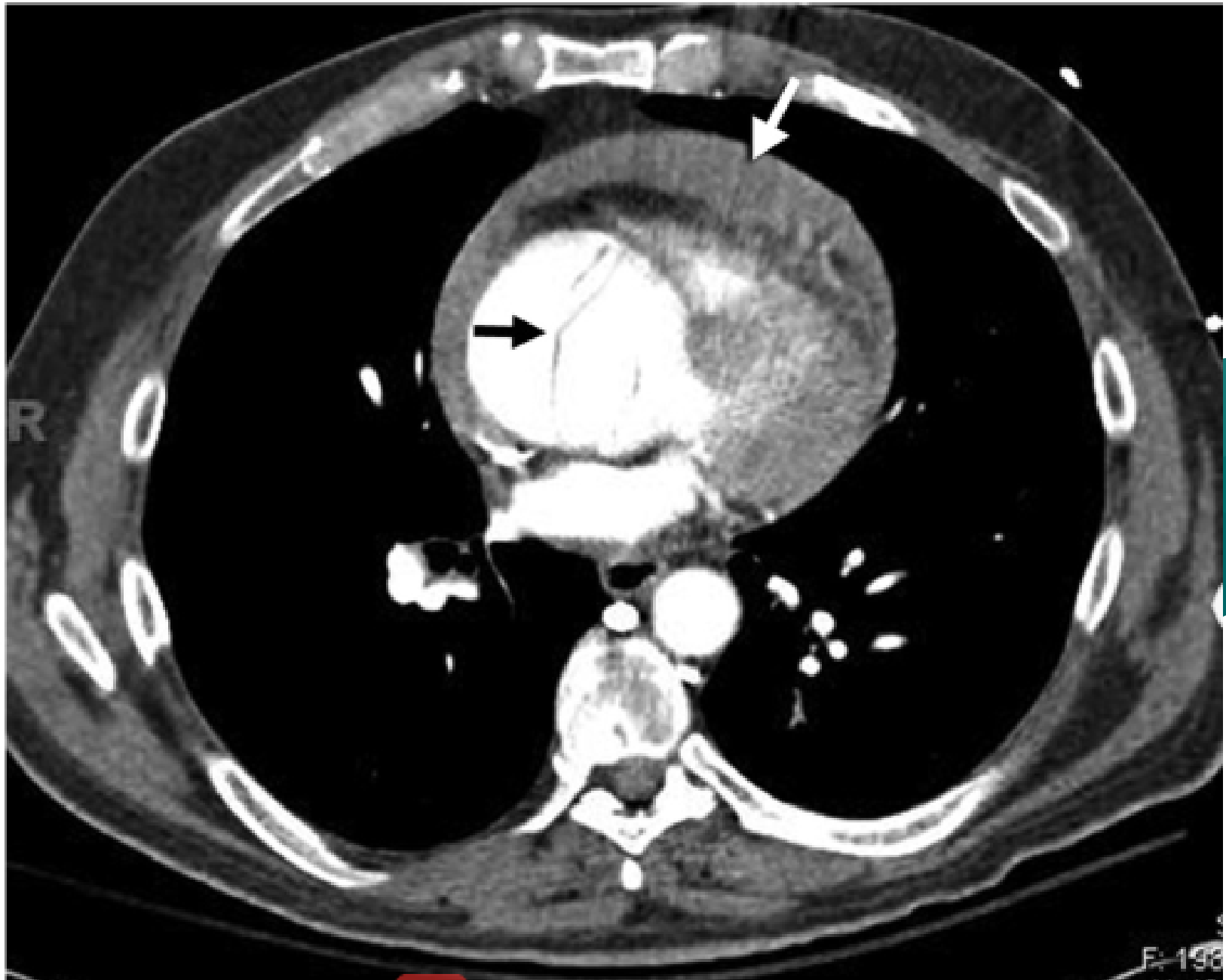


FIGURE e57-14 Contrast-enhanced CT scan of acute type A aortic dissection (black arrow) with associated hemopericardium (white arrow).

TABLE e57-3 Diagnostic Information from Imaging of Acute Aortic Dissection

1. Establish the presence of aortic dissection or variant (aortic IMH, PAU)
2. Location of the dissection (type A, type B)
3. Anatomic features
 - a. Extent of dissection
 - b. Sites of entry and reentry
 - c. False lumen patency, partial thrombosis, thrombosis
4. Complications of dissection
 - a. Type A
 - i. Aortic regurgitation
 - ii. Coronary artery involvement
 - iii. Pericardial effusion/hemopericardium
 - b. Aortic rupture or leakage
 - c. Branch vessel involvement
 - d. Malperfusion



STEP 1
Identify patients at risk for acute AoD

Consider acute AoD in all patients presenting with

- Chest, back, or abdominal pain
- Syncope
- Symptoms consistent with perfusion deficit (i.e. CNS, mesenteric, myocardial, or limb ischemia)

STEP 2
Bedside risk assessment

Focused bedside pre-test risk assessment for acute AoD.

High-Risk Conditions ①

- Marfan syndrome
- Family history of aortic disease
- Known aortic valve disease
- Recent aortic manipulation
- Known thoracic aortic aneurysm

High-Risk Pain Features ②

- Chest, back, or abdominal pain described as the following:
- Abrupt in onset
 - Severe in intensity
 - Ripping or tearing

High-Risk Exam Features ③

- Evidence of perfusion deficit
 - Pulse deficit
 - Systolic BP differential
 - Focal neurologic deficit (in conjunction with pain)
- Murmur of aortic insufficiency (new or not known to be old and in conjunction with pain)
- Hypotension or shock state

Determine pretest risk by calculating the number of categories in which any single risk factor is present.

STEP 3
Risk-based diagnostic evaluation

ADD Risk Score 0
No high-risk features present.

Proceed with diagnostic evaluation as clinically indicated by signs and symptoms.

Alternative diagnosis identified?

Yes
Initiate appropriate therapy.

No
Unexplained hypotension or widened mediastinum on CXR?

No
Consider aortic imaging study for AoD based on clinical scenario (particularly in patients with advanced age, risk factors for aortic disease, or syncope).

ADD Risk Score 1
Any single high-risk category present.

ECG consistent with STEMI?

Yes
Probably primary ACS. In absence of other perfusion deficits strongly consider immediate coronary reperfusion therapy. If coronary angiography performed, is culprit lesion identified?

No
CXR with clear alternative diagnosis?

Yes
Initiate appropriate therapy.

No
History and physical exam strongly suggestive of specific alternative diagnosis

Yes
Alternative diagnosis confirmed by further testing?

No
Expedited aortic imaging

ADD Risk Score 2-3
Two or three high-risk categories present.

No
Immediate surgical consultation and arrange for expedited aortic imaging.

Aortic Imaging Study

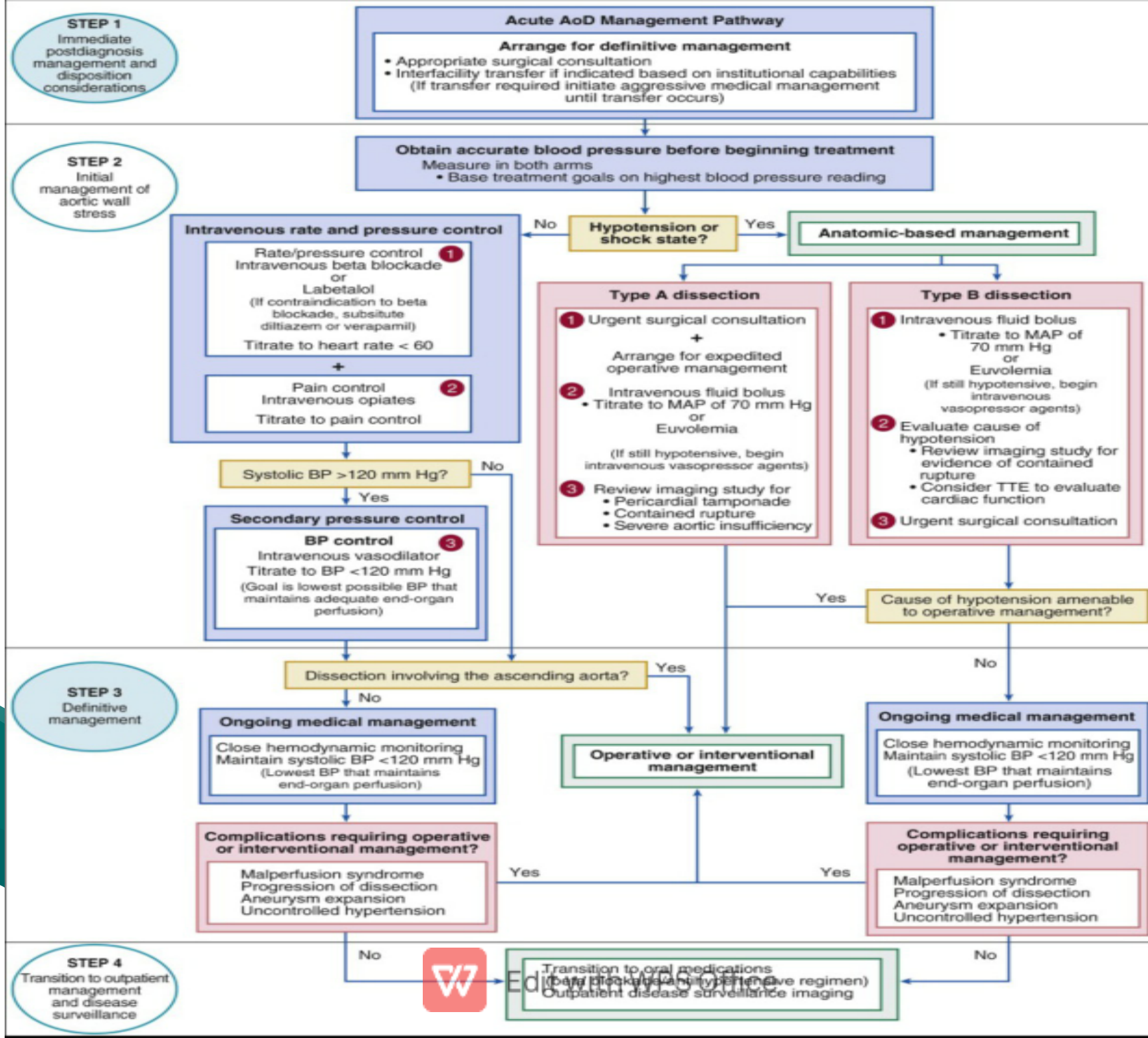
- TEE (preferred if clinically unstable)
- CT (Image entire aorta: chest to pelvis)
- MR

STEP 4
Acute AoD identified or excluded

If high clinical suspicion for aortic dissection exists, consider secondary imaging study.

No
AoD present

Yes
Proceed to treatment pathway



Lethal arrhythmias

1. SVTA: High risk WPW :

a-

b-

c-

2. Wide QRS :

Lethal precipitant factors:

- Ischemia.
- LV dysfunction ($EF < 30\%$).
- Electrolyte imbalance (potassium).
- Antiarrhythmic drug use ("Prolonged QT syndrome").

generated to VT, VF).
pseudo-VT.



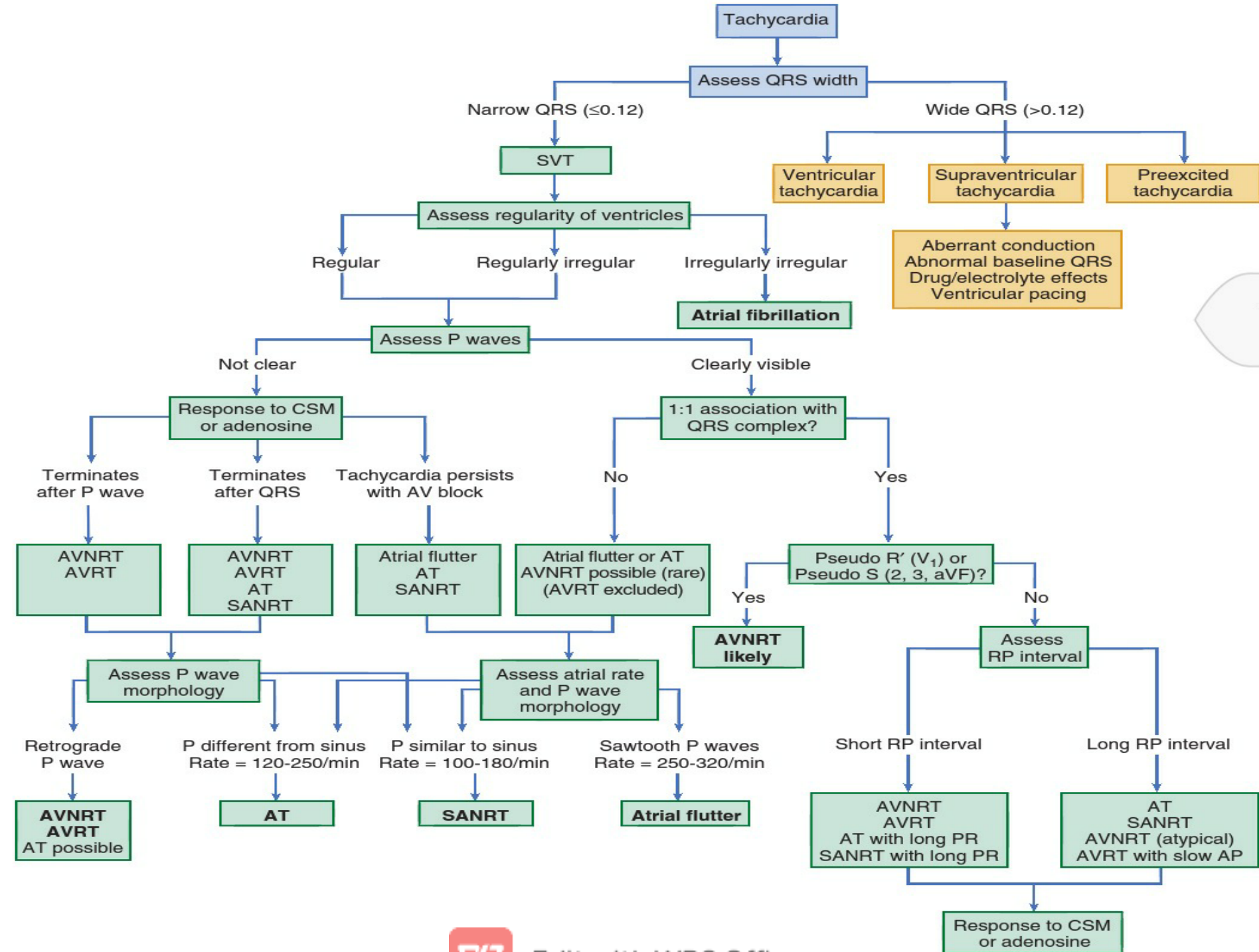
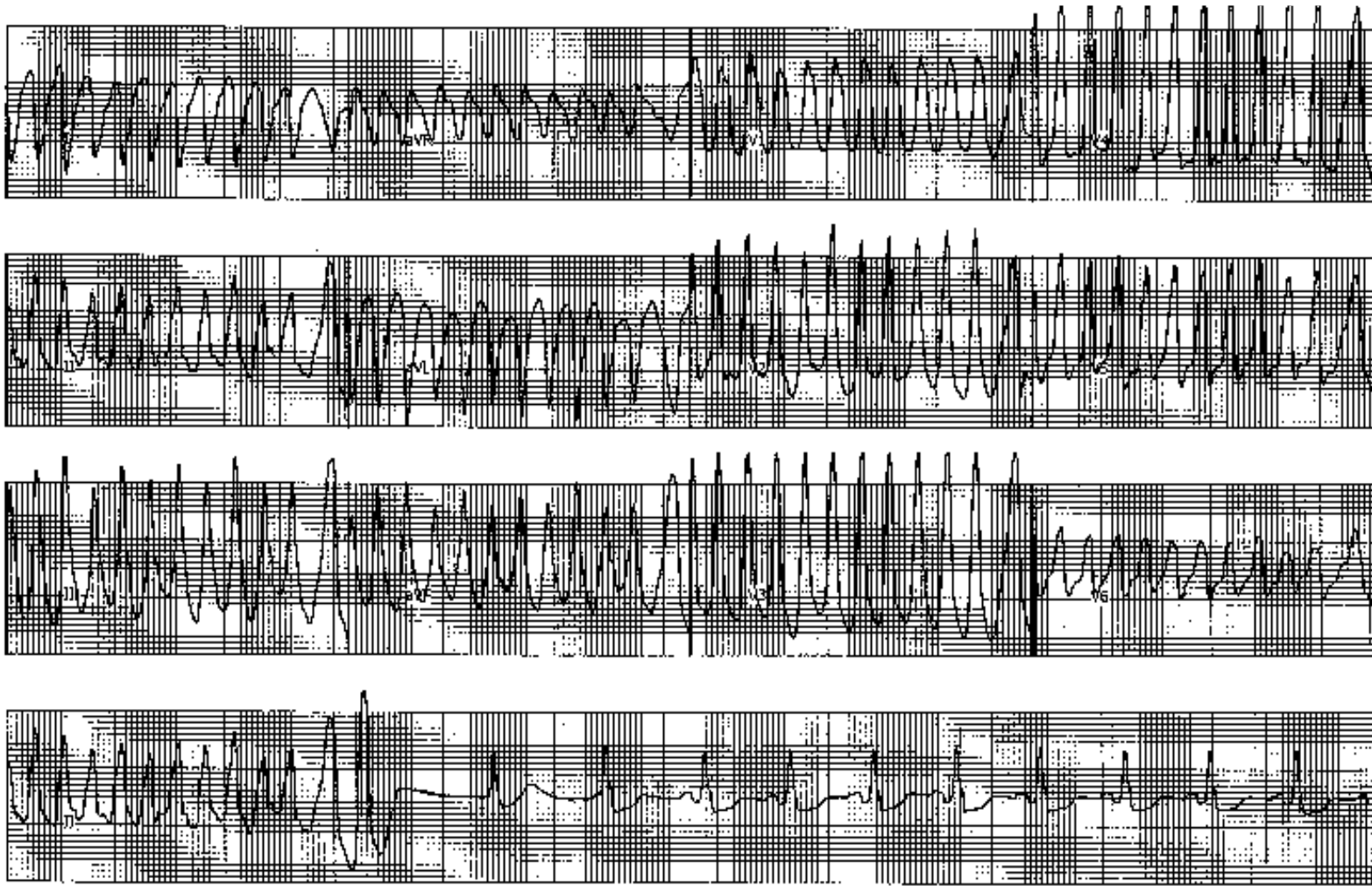


FIGURE 34-1 Stepwise approach to diagnosis of the type of tachycardia based on a 12-lead ECG during the episode. The initial step is to determine whether the tachycardia has a wide or narrow QRS complex. For wide-complex tachycardia, see Table 34-1; the remainder of the algorithm is helpful in diagnosis of the type of narrow-complex tachycardia. AP = accessory pathway; AT = atrial tachycardia; AVNRT = atrioventricular nodal reentrant tachycardia; AVRT = atrioventricular reciprocating tachycardia; CSM = carotid sinus massage; SANRT = sinoatrial nodal reentry tachycardia.

Ventrikular –Flutter, VT: (Rate: 150200/min, arrythmic).

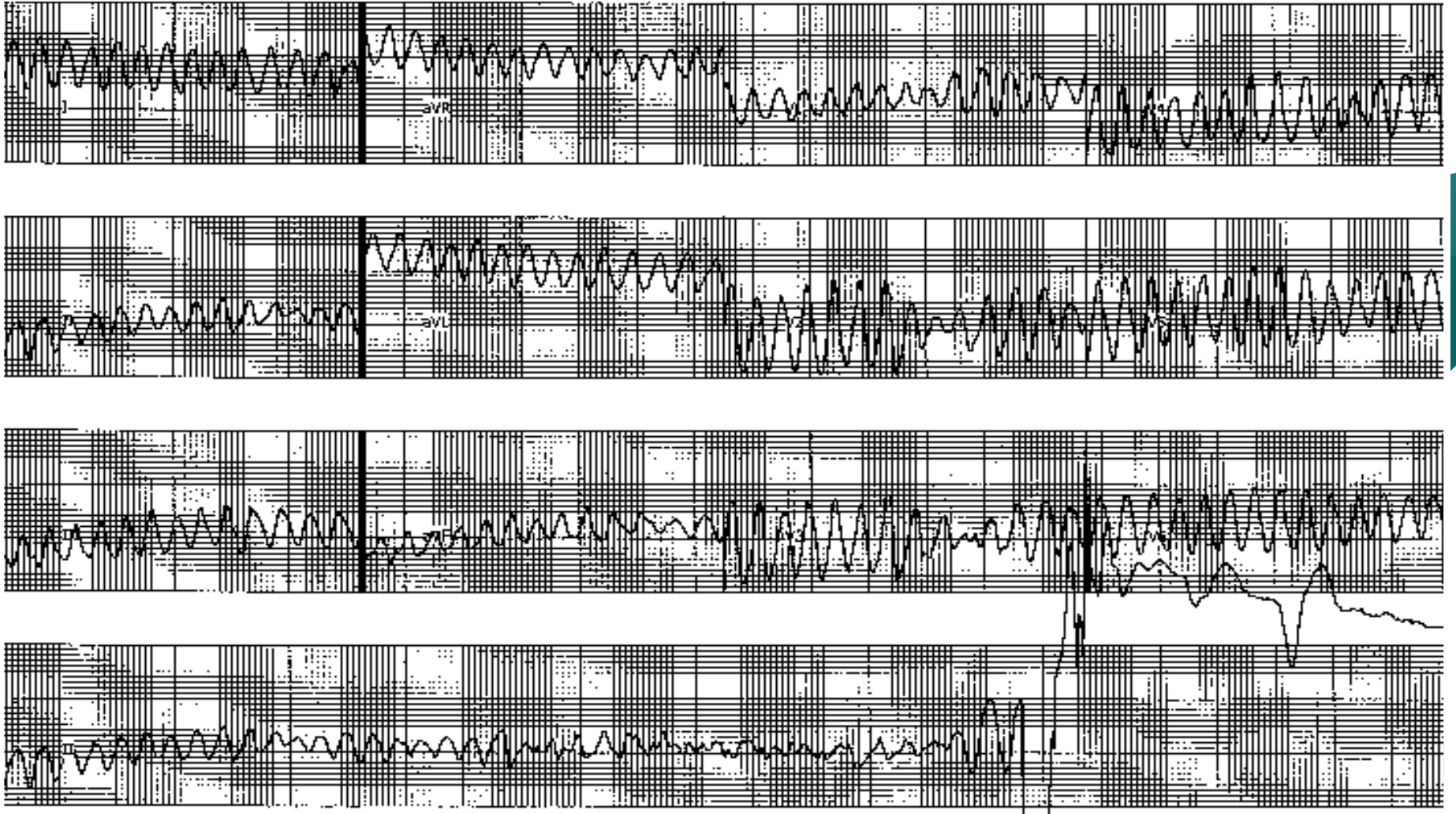


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**Torsades de Pointes-TdeP: Slow polymorphic VF/
T; Polymorphic VTA; Amplitude of ventricular
activity changes constantly around isoelectric line.**

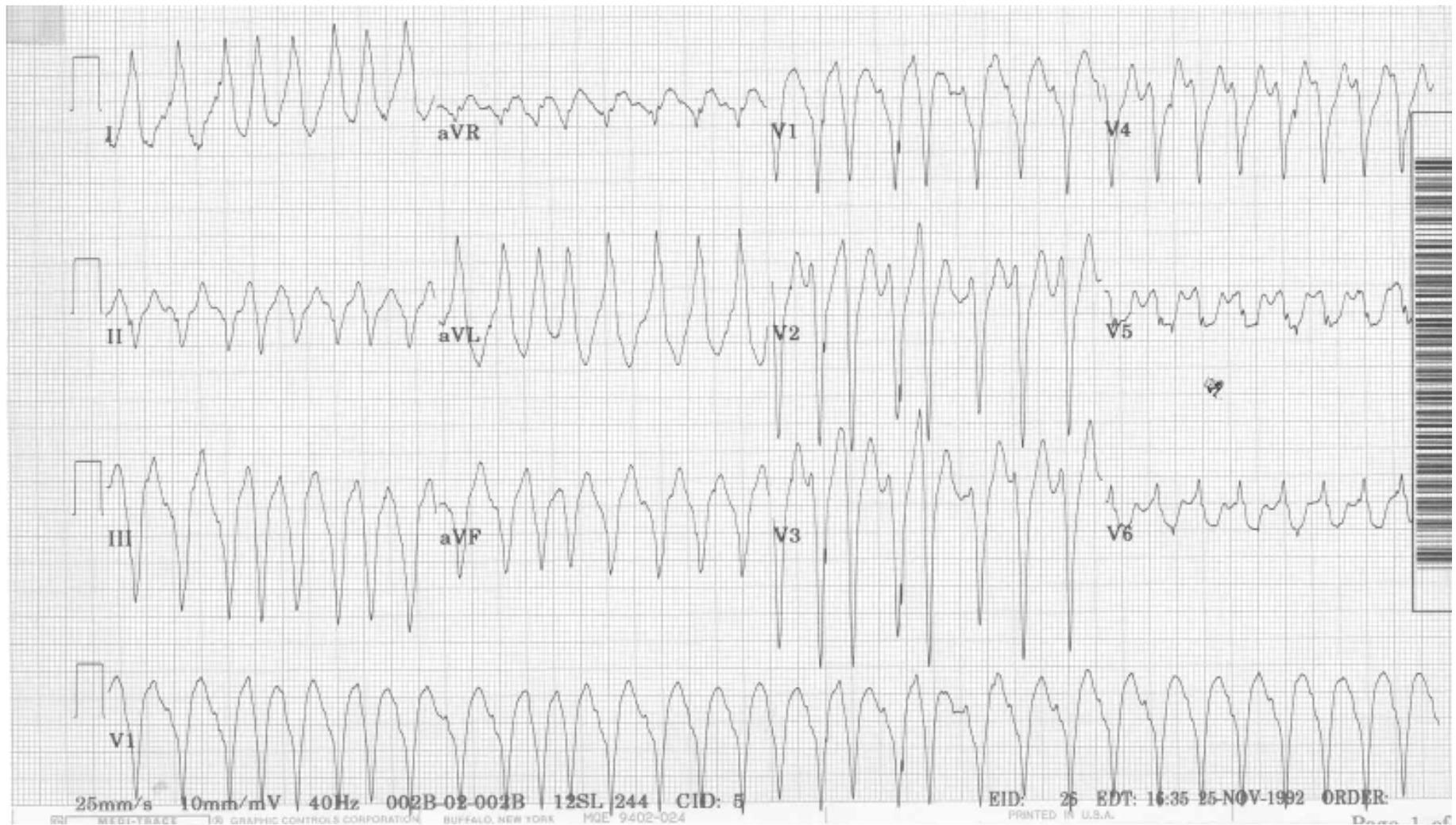


VF and Defibrillation.



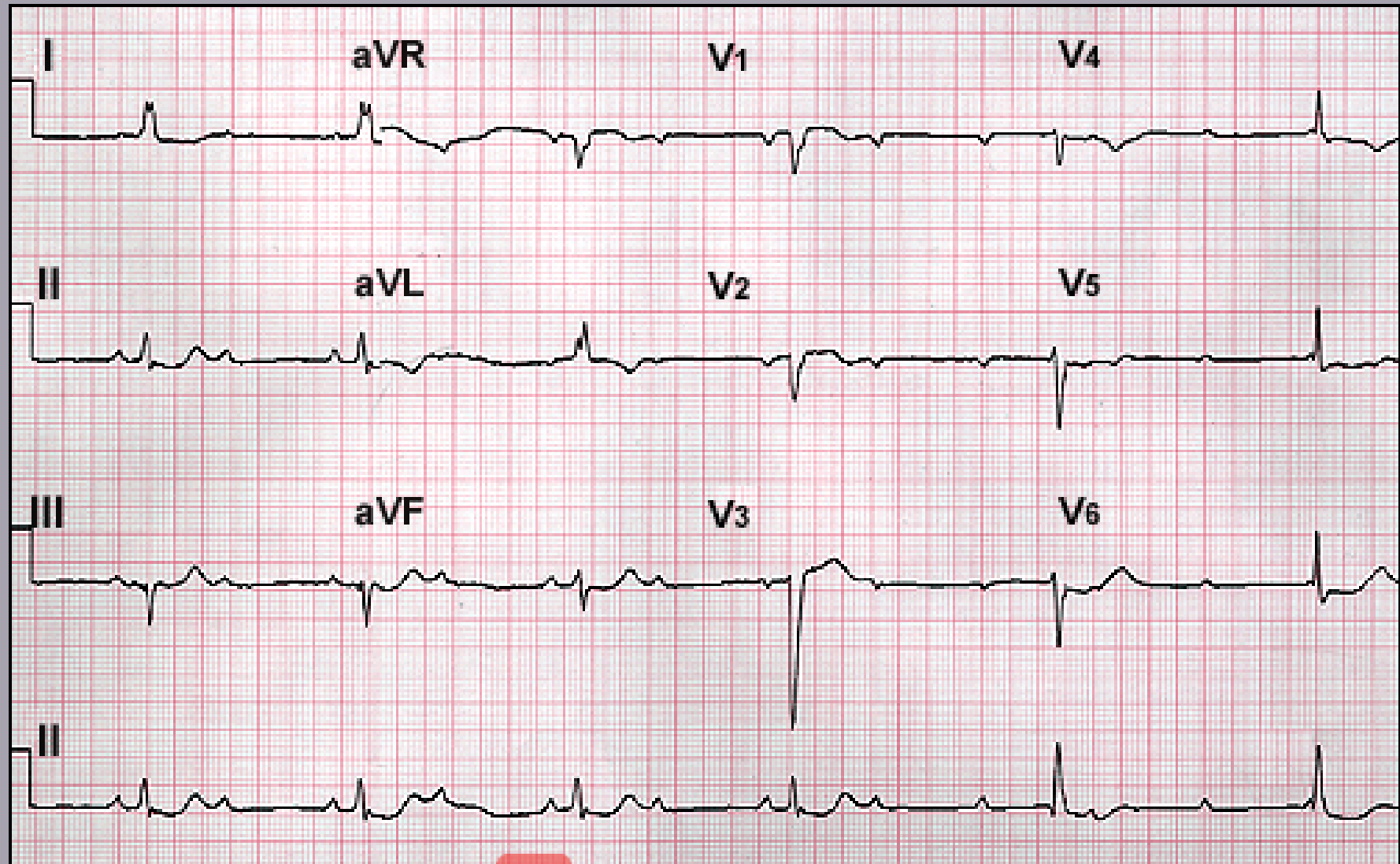
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Wide QRS and arrhythmic tachycardia: AF, accessory way antidromic conduction; - not VT, ("Psödo-VT").

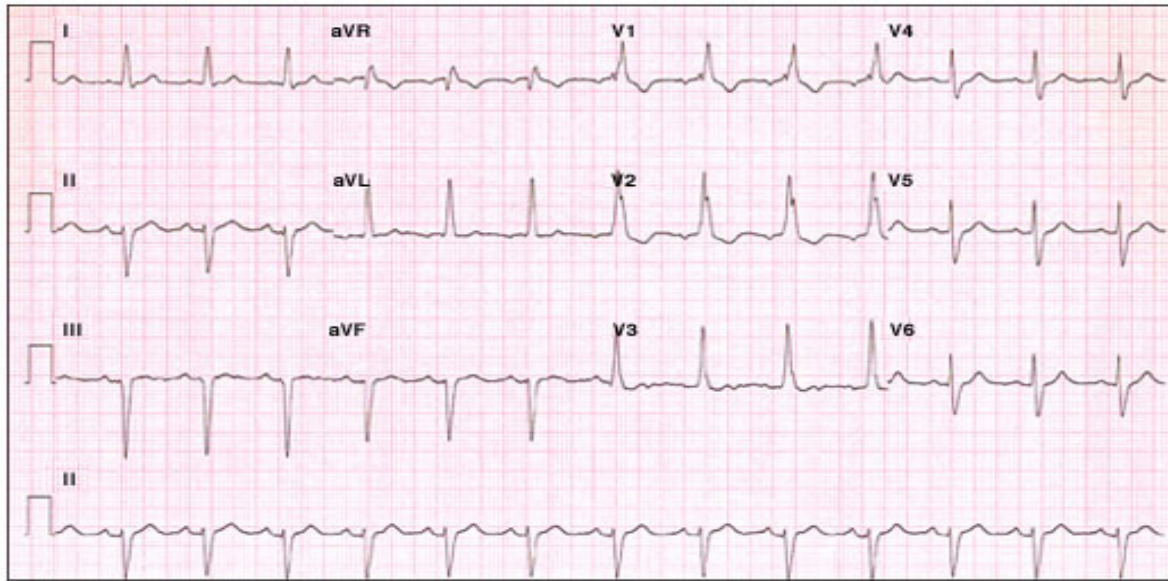


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3. Degree AV Block.



Syncope:



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