

PROJECT



Excellence in R2R

Who requires a screening ECG?



Patients > 30 years old experiencing any of the following:

- Chest pain or discomfort
- Chest pressure or tightness
- "Heartburn" or epigastric pain
- Complaints of "heart racing" (HR >150 or irregular and >120)
- Complaints of "heart too slow" (HR < 50 and symptomatic)
- A syncopal episode or severe weakness in patients > 45 years old
- New onset stroke symptoms (< 24 hours old)
- Difficulty breathing (with no obvious non-cardiac cause)

These patients require an ECG immediately in any available bed or at triage. Time to ECG < 5 minutes!

Patients (regardless of age) with any of the above symptoms **and history of:**

- Prior cardiac disease such as heart attack
- A family history of early heart disease
- Diabetes mellitus
- Severe obesity
- Recent cocaine use

These patients require an ECG within 10 minutes!

Show all ECG's immediately to a physician for signature!

Remember:

- Please transport patients by wheelchair
- Women and diabetic patients are more likely to present with atypical symptoms
- Elderly patients may have symptoms such as generalized weakness, altered mental status or syncope as their only sign of acute heart attack
- When in doubt, do the ECG!