

Emergency Department EKG Protocol

EKG protocol for the Evaluation and Capture of Atypical STEMI or Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS) in patients age 18 and older:

- 1. A STAT EKG needs to be completed within 10 minutes of arrival – on all patients exhibiting these complaints, and shown to the ER Physician immediately upon completion.**

Chest pain Weakness

Dizziness Shortness of Breath

Palpitations Syncope

Non-traumatic upper back, shoulder, jaw, or upper abdominal pain

- 2. Patients are “arrived” by the Triage RN, arm-banded, and brought immediately back to a room. Patients who arrive per EMS will be arrived by Registration.**
- 3. A text is to be sent out to all staff and a phone call made to the PCT caring for the patient – that an EKG is needed.**
- 4. The EKG order is to be put in the computer by the triage RN, using the Physician’s name that is caring for the patient. The primary RN is responsible to put in an EKG order if the patient arrives by EMS.**
- 5. Patient’s family members need to be asked to remain in the waiting room until the EKG is completed. Scripting is available to use: “We need a moment to start caring for your family member, please sign in and we will take you back to the room in a few minutes.”**

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