

# Case Studies in Acute Chest Pain: Diagnosis, Risk Stratification, & Test Selection

April 17, 2019

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## Disclosures:

Kanny S. Grewal  
None

Shirlien Metersky  
• None

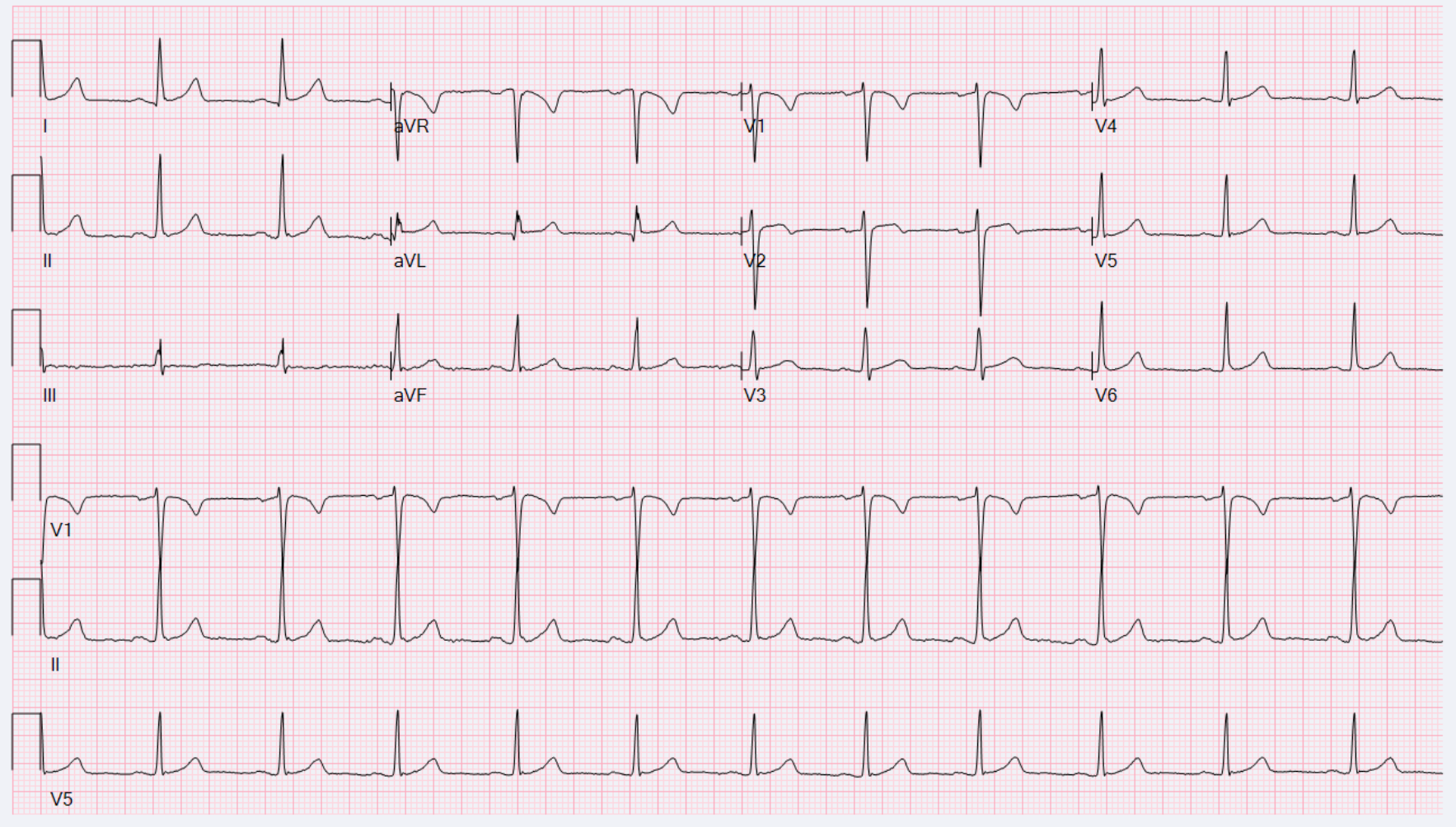
# Case Study #1

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## Emergency Room Presentation

- 46 y.o. female with PMH of hypothyroid who presents with isolated episode of nonexertional left sided CP described as sharp and stabbing lasting 2 minutes while sitting on couch watching TV
- Nonsmoker, denies HTN or hyperlipidemia
- She reports that her brother, age 55 just had a PCI last month
- Exam normal
- Troponin: undetectable

# Case 1: EKG



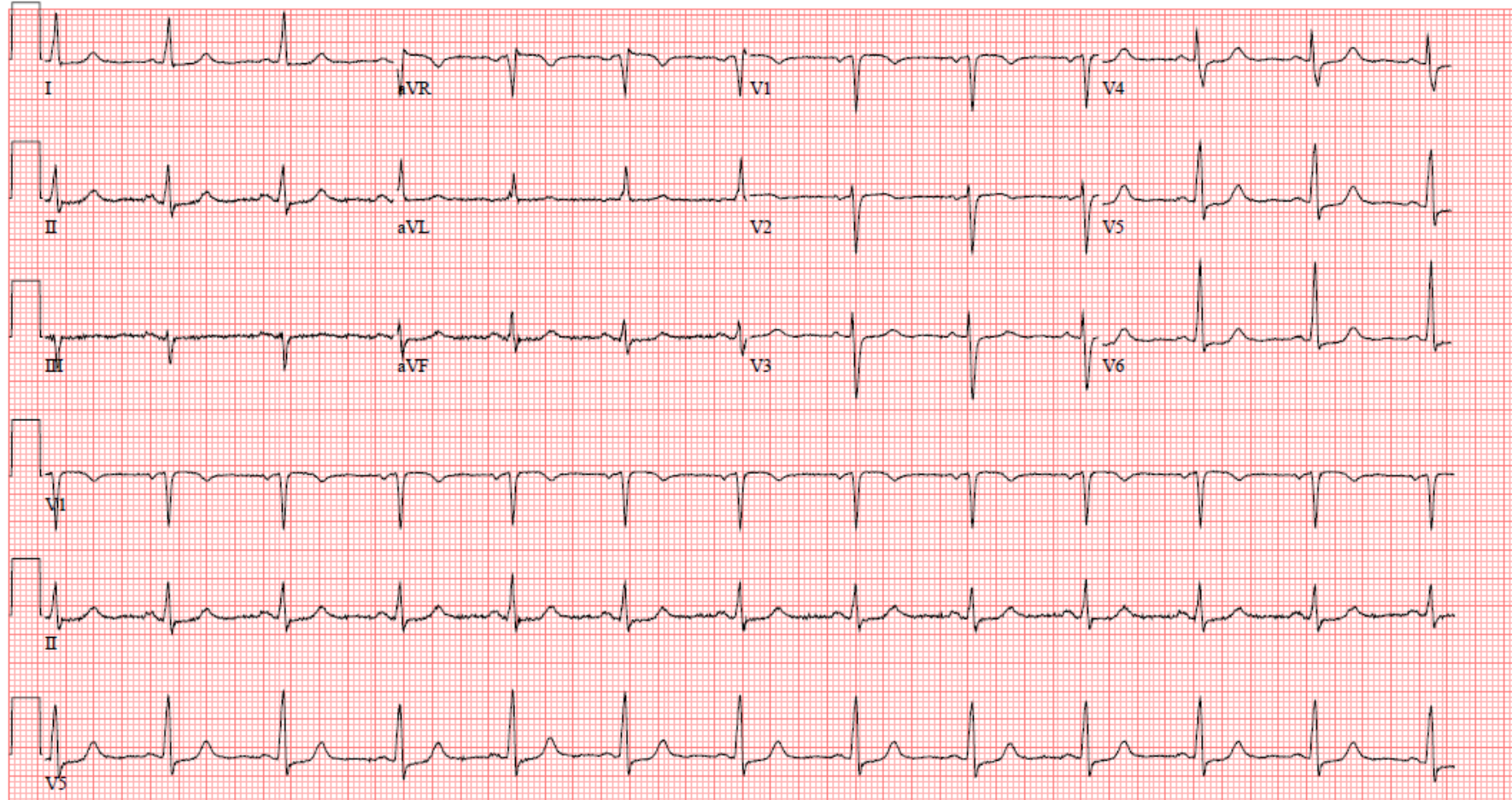
# Case 1: How would you classify patient's acute risk and recommended testing?

- A: Low Discharge, outpatient testing
- B: Low Observation, inpatient testing
- C: Intermediate Observation, inpatient testing
- D: High Admit, inpatient testing

## Case 1 “b”:

- 86 year old female presents to RMH, dull chest pain intermittent for several weeks, sometimes with exertion. No associated sx. Patient is independent, active for age.
- PMH: HTN, hyperlipidemia, prior smoker
- LHC 20 years ago – “unremarkable”, no h/o PCI
- Exam normal
- Troponin: < 6
- EKG:

# Case Study: 86 y.o. female



# Case 1b: How would you classify patient's acute risk and recommended testing?

- A: Low Discharge, outpatient testing
- B: Low Observation, inpatient testing
- C: Intermediate Observation, inpatient testing
- D: High Admit, inpatient testing

# Case Study #2

## Observation Status Patient with CP

- 78 yo widowed male living in an independent AL facility with history of PMH of CKD stage 3, HTN, HLD, anemia, diverticular GIB requiring prior blood transfusions, PAF on OAC, and CAD s/p CABG admitted for exertional CP similar to prior angina.
- Admit Labs: Hbg 9.6, WBC 11.3, Creatinine 1.6, CrCL 41, K+ 3.8, troponin trend consistent with NSTEMI-ACS
- Current cardiac medications: ASA 81mg, Eliquis, atorvastatin, and amlodipine

## Case 2: What is patient's risk assessment and your recommended evaluation?

### Risk

### Evaluation

- A: Low Medical Management only
- B: Intermediate Pharmacologic Stress Test
- C: High Medical Management only
- D: High Coronary Angio +/- PCI

# Case Study #3

## Patient Admitted with Chest Pain

- 82 yo female presented to ED with progressive exertional MSCP with associated progressive LE edema and DOE
- Diagnostic testing
  - CXR: small bilateral pleural effusions, mild interstitial edema
  - ECG: nonspecific STTWA
  - Labs: **Troponin T**: time 0 (32 ng/L), time 3 hrs (36 ng/L)
  - **NT-proBNP** 2084, **creatinine** 1.5, **Hbg** 9.7
  - Physical Exam: Bilateral LE edema 2+ pretibial, bibasilar rales with fine diffuse wheezing, harsh 2/6 SEM

## Case 3: What is likely etiology of elevated troponin T?

- A: Type 1 NSTEMI
- B: Type 2 NSTEMI
- C: Aortic Stenosis and CHF with preserved EF (HFpEF)
- D: False positive due to renal disease

# Case Study #4

## Patient Transferred from OLH with Equivocal Nuclear Stress Test

- 48 y.o. Caucasian male with PMH of poorly controlled HTN, DJD, and cardiac FMH who presented to OLH with left sided CP that woke him up from sleep lasting 1 hour not relieved with SL NTG administered by EMS. Nonsmoker.
- Admit ECG nonischemic, troponin trend negative x 3. BMI = 31.
- Underwent Pharmacologic SPECT (unable to exercise due to DJD) that showed preserved LVEF (58%), suboptimal quality, small primarily fixed defect in basal inferior region with “possible” peri-infarct ischemia

## Case 4: What test do you recommend for further assessment?

- A: Coronary angiography
- B: Dobutamine Stress Echo with contrast
- C: Coronary CT angiogram (CCTA)
- D: Stress PET perfusion scan

# Case Study #5

## Observation Status Patient with Chest Pain

- 66 yo female with PMH of CAD, HTN, GERD, HLD, and NIDDM who presents to ED with intermittent sharp CP, nonexertional. Chronic dyspnea with exertion, slightly worse recently. On day of presentation her CP woke her from sleep and relieved by SL NTG administered by EMS.
- Exam normal, BMI = 37.
- PCI to RCA 12 years ago. Left heart cath 3 years ago: patent stent, mild CAD.
- Vasodilator SPECT 18 months ago: probable normal with breast attenuation artifact
- Admit ECG nonischemic, troponin trend negative
- Admitted to Observation Unit for further evaluation

# Case 5: What test do you recommend for further assessment?

- A: Coronary angiography
- B: Dobutamine Stress Echo with contrast
- C: Coronary CTA (CCTA)
- D: Stress PET perfusion scan

# Reference Slides Cases 1-5

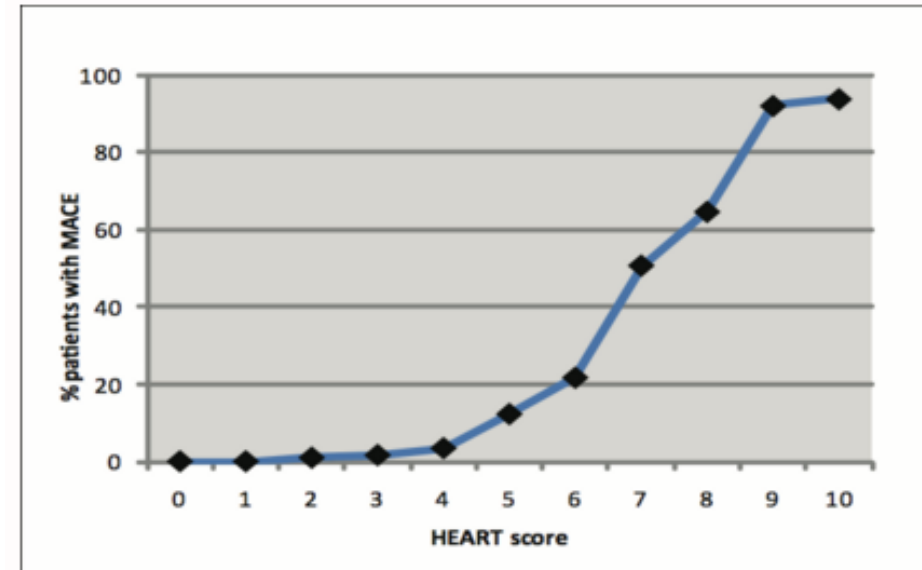
# HEART Score Tool

- Risk stratification tool used in ED for patients presenting with CP that the physician deems appropriate for ACS workup to predict risk of major adverse cardiac events (MACE)

## HEART

HEART score for chest pain patients		
History	Highly suspicious	2
	Moderately suspicious	1
	Slightly suspicious	0
ECG	Significant ST-deviation	2
	Non specific repolarisation disturbance / LBTB / PM	1
	Normal	0
Age	≥ 65 years	2
	> 45 and < 65 years	1
	≤ 45 years	0
Risk factors	≥ 3 risk factors or history of atherosclerotic disease*	2
	1 or 2 risk factors	1
	No risk factors known	0
Troponin	≥ 3x normal limit	2
	> 1 and < 3x normal limit	1
	≤ 1x normal limit	0
<b>Total</b>		

HEART Score	Risk of MACE
0 - 3	1,6%
4 - 6	13%
7 - 10	50%



[www.heartscore.nl](http://www.heartscore.nl)

**H**istory**Chest Pain Risk Features:**

- Retrosternal pressure
- Radiation (jaw, arm)
- Exertion
- Relief (nitrates or rest)
- Duration (5-15 min)
- Diaphoresis/Nausea

**0** : No features (**noncardiac**)**1**: 1-2 features (**atypical**)**2**: 3 or more features (**typical**)**E**KG**Definite Ischemia:**

- ST elevation
- >1 mm ST depression
- New T wave inversion
- No LBBB, LVH, etc

**Nonspecific:**

- LBBB
- LVH
- Nonspecific ST/T wave changes

**0** : Normal EKG**1**: Nonspecific**2**: Definite Ischemic**A**ge**0** : <45**1** : 45-64**2** :  $\geq$  65**R**isk  
**F**actors

- Hypertension (Treated, or > 160/100)
- Hyperlipidemia (Treated)
- Diabetes
- Smoker (Current or quit <90 d)
- BMI  $\geq$  30
- Family History of premature CAD (men < 55, women < 65)

**0** : No RF and no known CVD**1** : 1-2 RF and no known CVD**2** :  $\geq$  3 RF, or known CVD (CAD, PVD or CVA/TIA)**T**roponin

(use local lab cutoffs)

**0** : < **15/23** ng/L**1** : **15/23** to **50** ng/L**2** : > **50** ng/dl

**H**istory**Chest Pain Risk Features:**

- Retrosternal pressure
- Radiation (jaw, arm)
- Exertion
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**0** : Normal EKG**1**: Nonspecific**2**: Definite Ischemic**A**ge**0** : <45**1** : 45-64**2** : ≥ 65**R**isk  
**F**actors

- Hypertension (Treated, or > 160/100)
- Hyperlipidemia (Treated)
- Diabetes
- Smoker (Current or quit <90 d)
- BMI ≥ 30
- Family History of premature CAD (men < 55, women < 65)

**0** : No RF and no known CVD**1** : 1-2 RF and no known CVD**2** : ≥ 3 RF, or known CVD (CAD, PVD or CVA/TIA)**T**roponin

(use local lab cutoffs)

**0** : < **15/23** ng/L**1** : **15/23** to **50** ng/L**2** : > **50** ng/dl

Heart Score	Risk level	30 day event rate:
0-2 (with undetectable Tpn)	Very Low	< 0.5%
0-3	Low	0.5 – 1.5%
4-6	Intermediate	>5%
7-10	High	>20%

**References:** Mark et al, *JACC* 2018; 71(606)  
McCord *Circ CV Outcomes* 2017

# RMH: Acute Care Chest Pain Pathway

Acute Chest Pain:  
Immediate History, EKG, TnT

TnT = Serum Troponin T  
HS = HEARTscore

Document  
HEARTscore

No STEMI/ACS

(+) STEMI/ACS

**Very Low** (HS 0-2  
with undetectable TnT)

**Low /Intermediate**  
(HS 3-6, +/- detectable TnT)

**High**  
(HS 7-10)

Consider:

- No Cardiac Testing
- Outpatient Stress Pathway
- Non-cardiac Eval

OR (if available):

• Immediate Testing

Immediate testing available?

Yes

No

OBS Pathway

Admit  
Acute Therapy

**Cardiac CTA:**

- Age < 65 (M) or 70 (F)
- No Hx of CAD/PCI/CABG
- BMI ≤ 35
- No Contraindication to b-blocker/ nitrates
- For **Very Low** HS, consider Ca++ Score alone

OR

**“Zero-Hr” Stress Echo:**

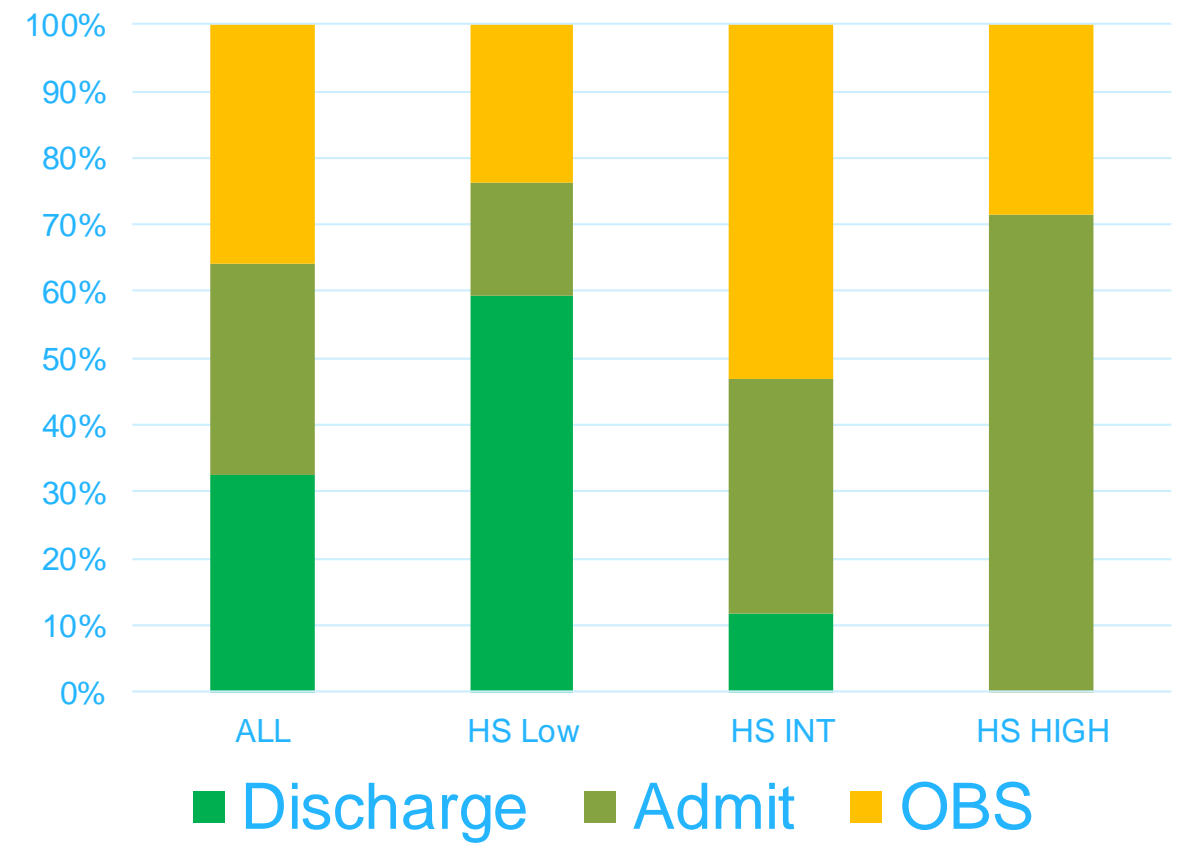
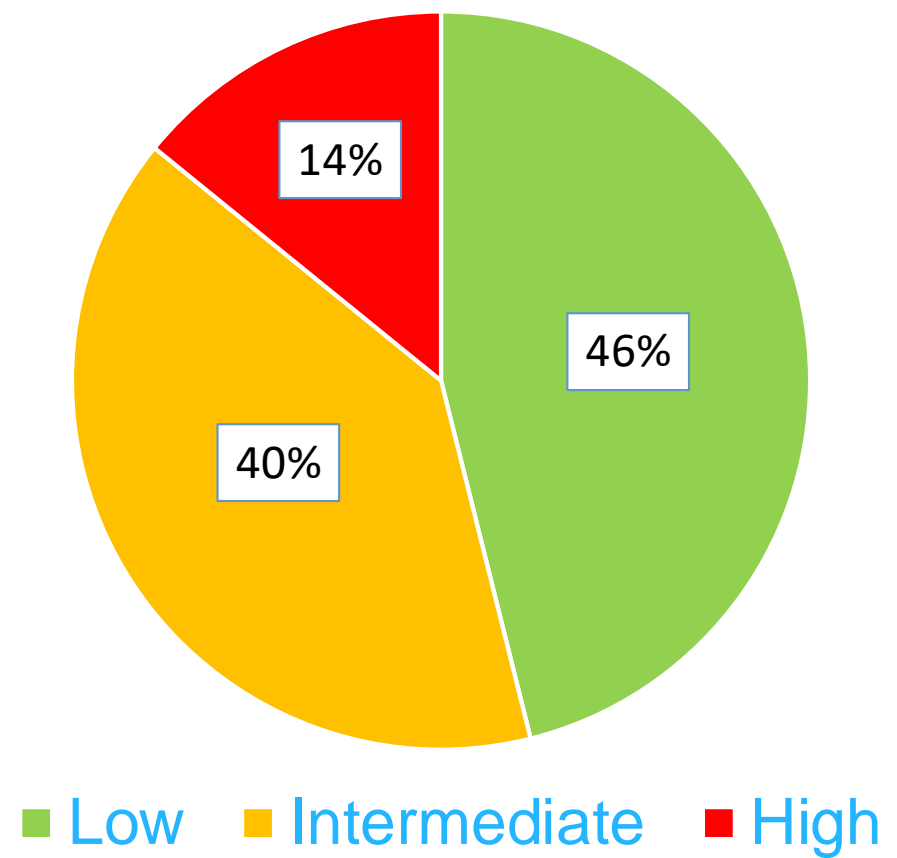
- Able to Exercise, Normal EKG
- Undetectable TnT (>2 hrs w CP)
- BMI ≤ 30
- Atypical Chest Pain (H = 0/1)
- For **Very Low** HS, consider stress EKG alone

\*For Immediate testing, discuss with Cardiology IF:

- Hx of CAD
- Detectable TpT
- Equivocal EKG
- Unable to exercise or BMI > 35

# 1131-405 The Predictive Value of the HEARTscore Tool using High-sensitivity Troponin T: Comparison to Current Generation Troponin T in a United States Acute Chest Pain Population

Karanvir Grewal (1), Deep Shah(1), Galen Hayek(1), Shray Jain(1), Nathan Nahhas (1), Caroline Lerner(1), Susan Fuhrman(1), Anand Gupta(2), and Tamara McMath(2), OhioHealth Riverside Methodist Hospital, Columbus, OH, USA (1); OhioHealth Research & Innovation Institute, Columbus, OH, USA (2)

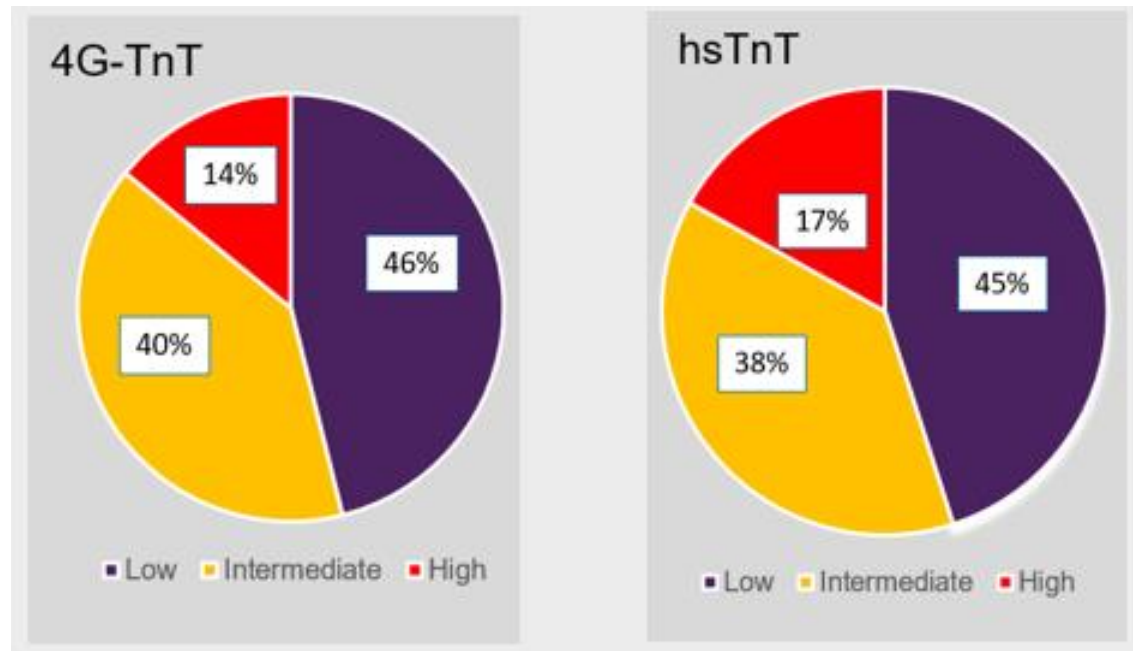


HeartScore Results and Disposition  
(410 consecutive patients with Chest Pain in RMH ED)

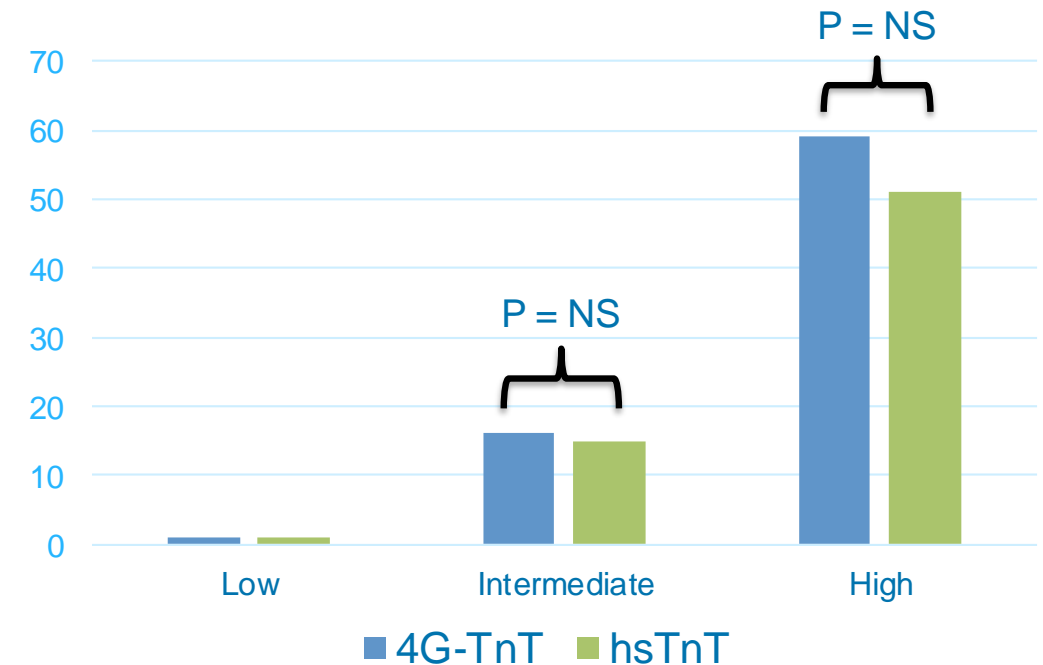
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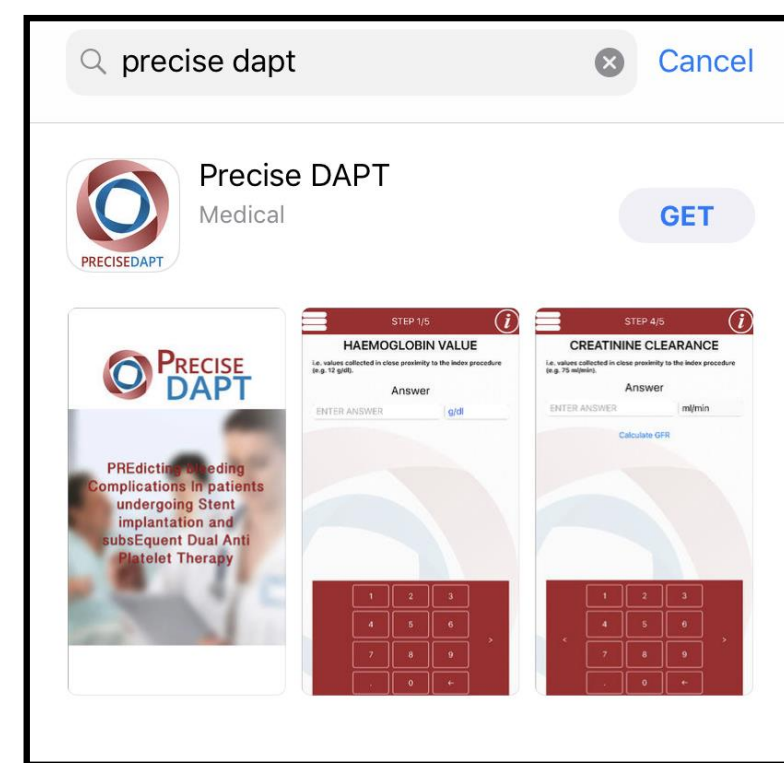
## Heart Score Results(4G vs hsTnT) N = 410 ED patients with Chest Pain



## Positive Predictive Value (4G vs hsTnT)



- Risk calculator to predict the risk of bleeding in individual patients with CAD, treated with coronary stenting and subsequent DAPT
- Developed from a collaborative data set including data from 8 RCT
- Risk calculator made up of 5 items with total score range 0-100
  - Hbg level
  - Age
  - WBC level
  - Creatinine Clearance
  - Prior bleeding (defined as history of spontaneous bleeding requiring medical attention)
- Score of  $\geq 25$  – patient may benefit from shorter course of DAPT ( $< 12$  months)



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Back RESULT *i*

**PRECISE-DAPT SCORE**

**68**

**CLUSTER of Risk** **HBR**

**High** **YES**

**Estimated 12 months bleeding risk**

Major or Minor	Major
<b>&gt; 4.14%</b>	<b>&gt; 2.06%</b>

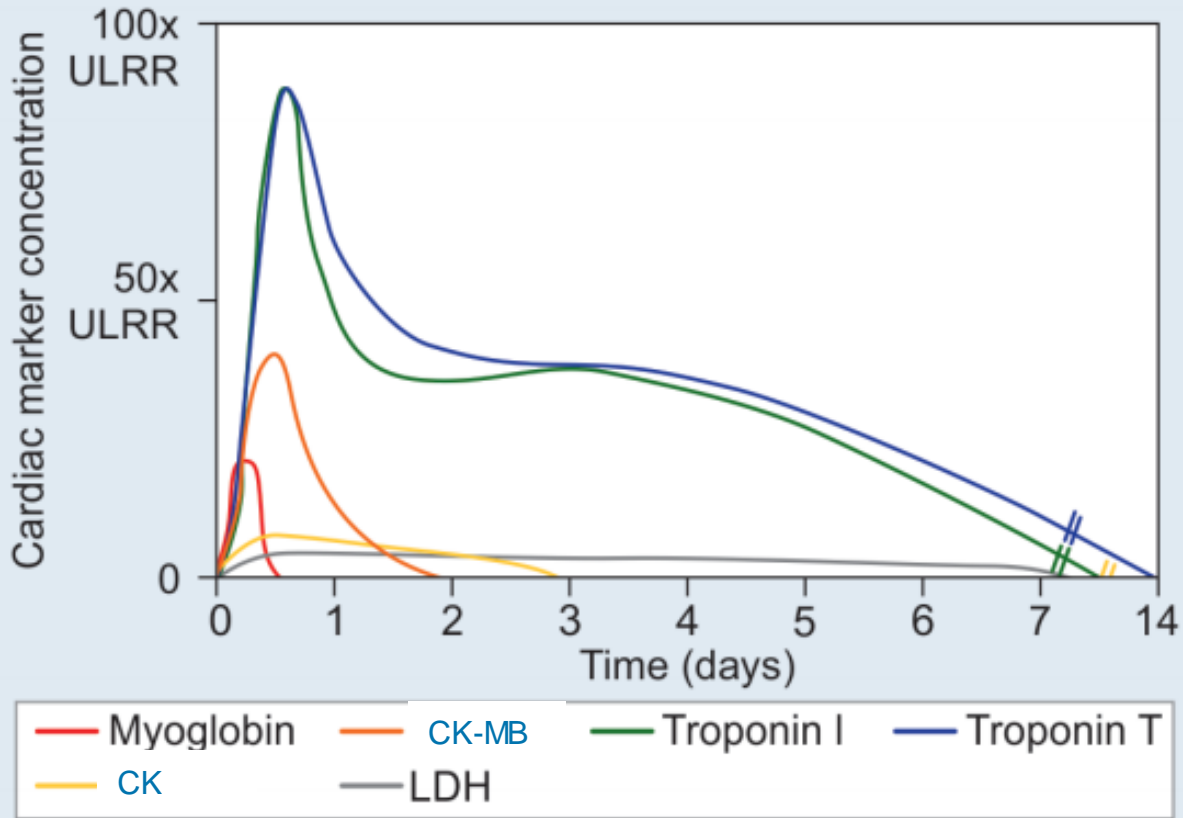
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# Decision making on type of ischemic workup

- Age and frailty
  - Functional capacity
  - Is there underlying dementia and to what degree
  - Can their symptoms be managed conservatively
- Anemia
  - Stress test and heart catheterization routinely not performed with Hbg < 8.0
  - Is the patient receiving routine blood transfusions
  - is the source of their anemia known
- Renal Insufficiency
  - Risk for contrast induced nephropathy with LHC that may lead to risk of needing dialysis
- Can the patient tolerate DAPT?
  - Is there upcoming surgery planned with need for DAPT to be held and patient now with new DES
  - Anemia considerations; oral AC considerations

# The Cardiac Troponin Complex



- Troponin I
  - Multiple assays
  - Values are not transferable
- Troponin T
  - Single assay (Roche)
  - 5<sup>th</sup> generation approved in USA 2017

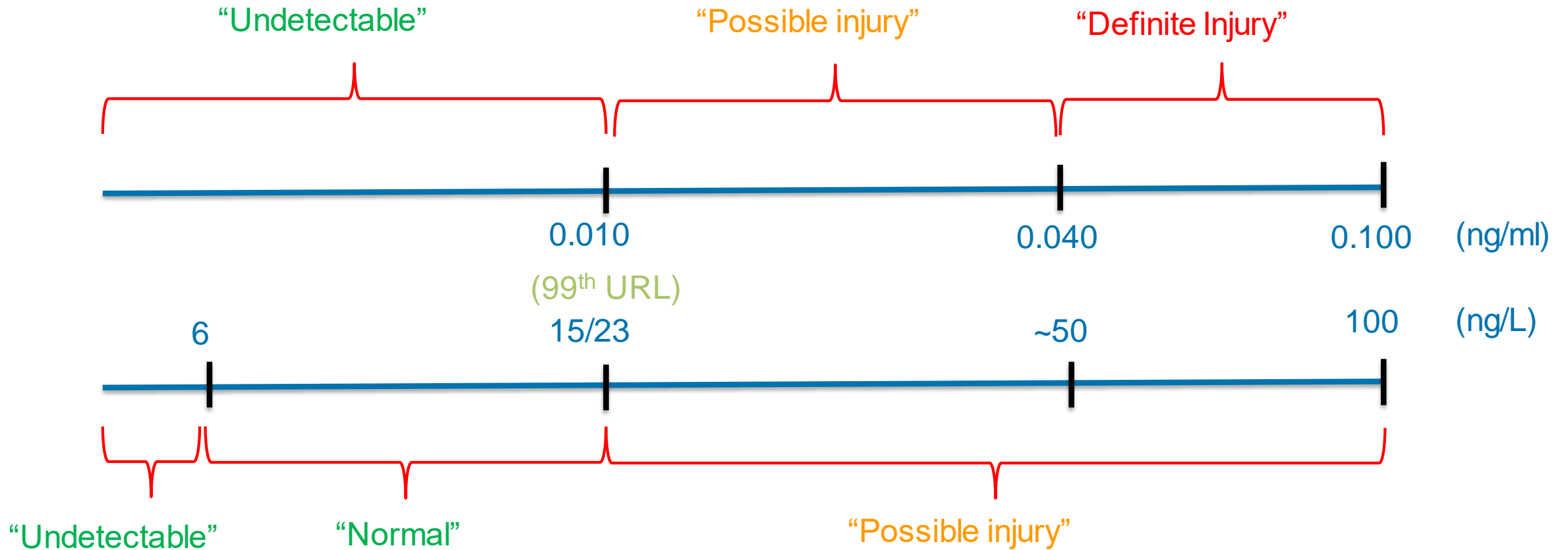
# 5<sup>th</sup> Generation (“high-sensitive”) Troponin-T – ng/L

- Detects very low circulating cTn-T (ng/L) – below “normal” threshold  
(Emphasis on serial change - “delta troponin”)
- Detects acute myocardial injury EARLIER (faster “rule-in”) and excludes acute injury SOONER (faster “rule-out”)
- “Flat” elevation in renal disease, non-ischemic cardiac disease, etc.
- Sex-specific cutoffs ( to maximize specificity and sensitivity)

# Myocardial Infarction: 4<sup>th</sup> Universal Definition (WHF/ACC/AHA/ESC expert consensus, 2018)

- **MYOCARDIAL INJURY**: Cardiac Troponin (cTn) > 99<sup>th</sup> percentile of URL
  - **ACUTE INJURY**: >99<sup>th</sup> URL **plus** rise or fall >20% (“delta” cTn)
  - **INFARCTION** = Acute Injury **Plus** Clinical ischemia
    - Type 1 (primary thrombosis) or Type 2 (secondary ischemia)
    - ST elevation or non-ST elevation
- Ischemic EKG changes  
or  
Ischemic Symptoms

# 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Troponin-T (4G) – ng/ml



# 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Troponin-T (5G) – ng/L

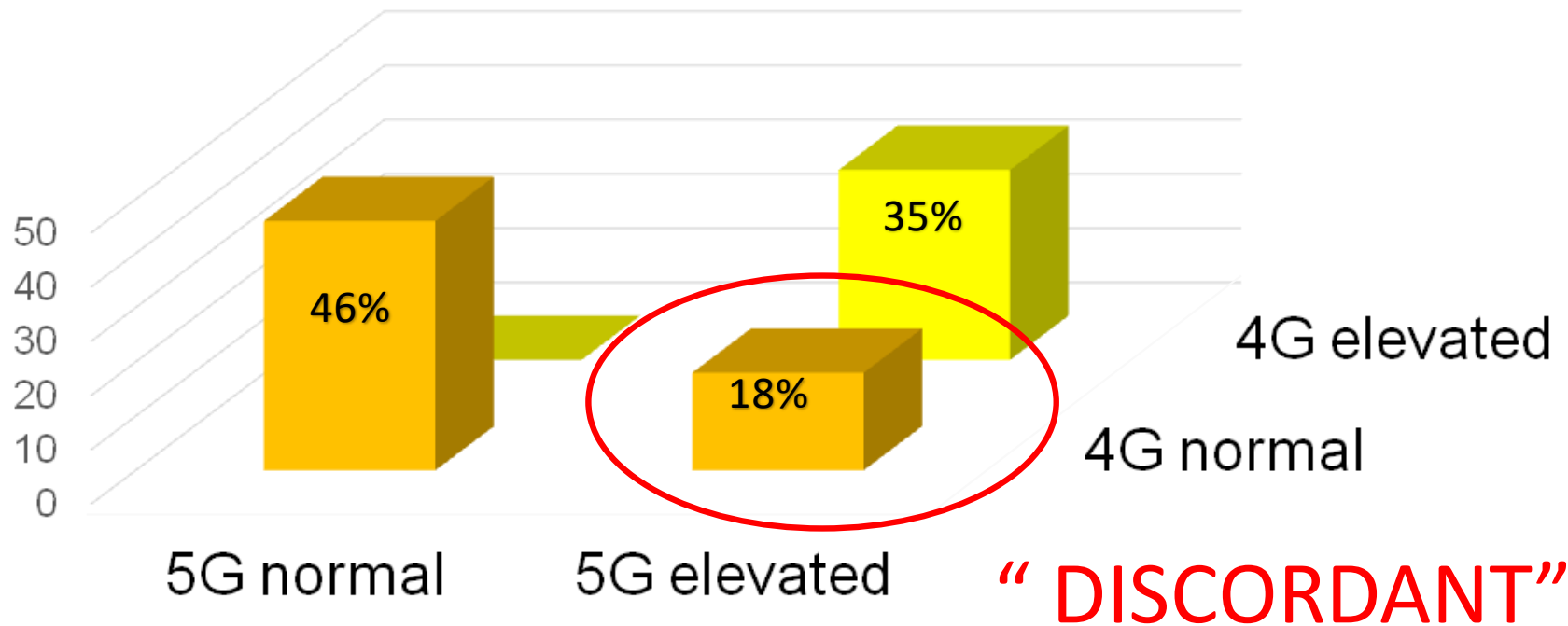
# 5G Troponin T: Non-MI elevation

- Renal disease (reduced clearance)
- Skeletal Myopathies (cross reaction with assay)
- Non-MI myocardial injury
  - Cardiac
    - Heart Failure
    - Arrhythmia
    - Hypertensive Urgency
    - Valvular Disease
    - Drug toxicity
    - Myocarditis, infiltrative diseases
    - Takotsubo Cardiomyopathy
    - Cardiac contusion / trauma
  - Non-Cardiac
    - Aortic Dissection
    - Sepsis
    - Shock
    - Pulmonary Embolism
    - Acute Neurologic event
    - Thyroid disease
    - Rhabdomyolysis
    - Extreme endurance efforts

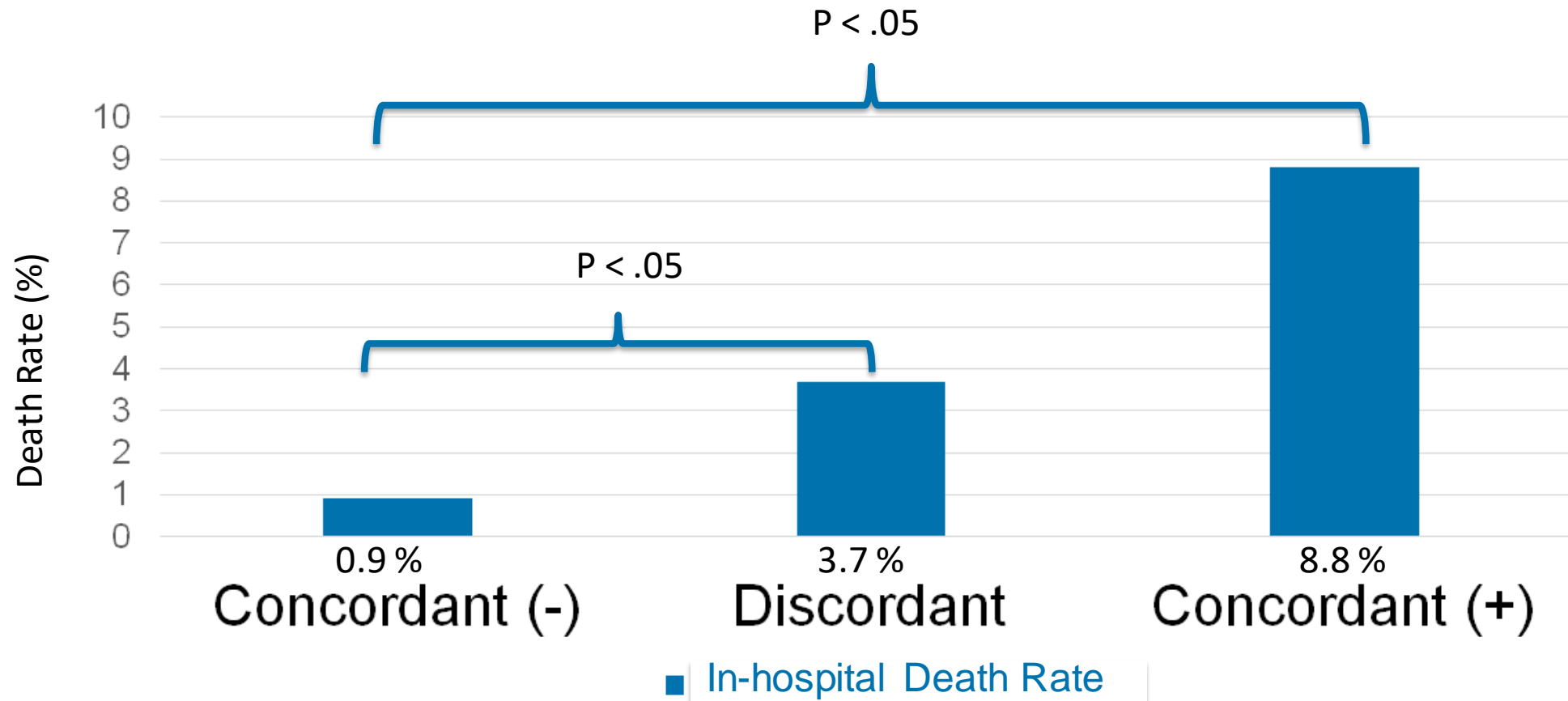
# Accuracy of High-sensitivity Troponin T: Effect of Sex-specific Cutoffs and Impact of Serial Change in a United States Emergency Chest Pain Population

Karanvir S. Grewal, Galen Hayek, Nathan Nahhas, Deep Shah, Shray Jain, Susan Fuhrman, Caroline Lerner, Anand Gupta, Tamara McMath, Riverside Methodist Hospital, Columbus, OH, USA, OhioHealth Research & Innovation Institute, Columbus, OH, USA

## 4G vs. 5G Troponin T: Results (2060 patients, 3891 total samples)



# OhioHealth 5G Troponin T study: In-hospital Death Rate (Any Cause)



Initial Troponin

Normal

Elevated

3° Troponin  
(range, 3-12°)

Normal

Normal

Elevated

Elevated

Elevated

3° Delta  
(range, 3-12°)

Normal (<20%)

Elevated

Normal

Normal (<20%)

Elevated (>20%)

OR

Conclusion

No Biomarker evidence of injury

Possible injury

- Nonacute or Late Injury
- Non-MI elevation

Probable Acute Injury / Infarction

Management

- Serial assays
- Disposition based on HeartScore

- Serial assays
- Assess non-MI causes
- Consider Echo

- Admit
- Confirm/exclude STEMI
- Initiate therapy

# Suspected CAD:



Stress EKG

Stress Echo

Stress Nuclear MPI

Definite Normal



Definite Abnormal



CCTA

Advanced Imaging

Cardiac PET

Clinical Suspicion:

Low

Mod/High

Age:

<70

Any

BMI:

Lower

Any

Known CAD:

No

Yes

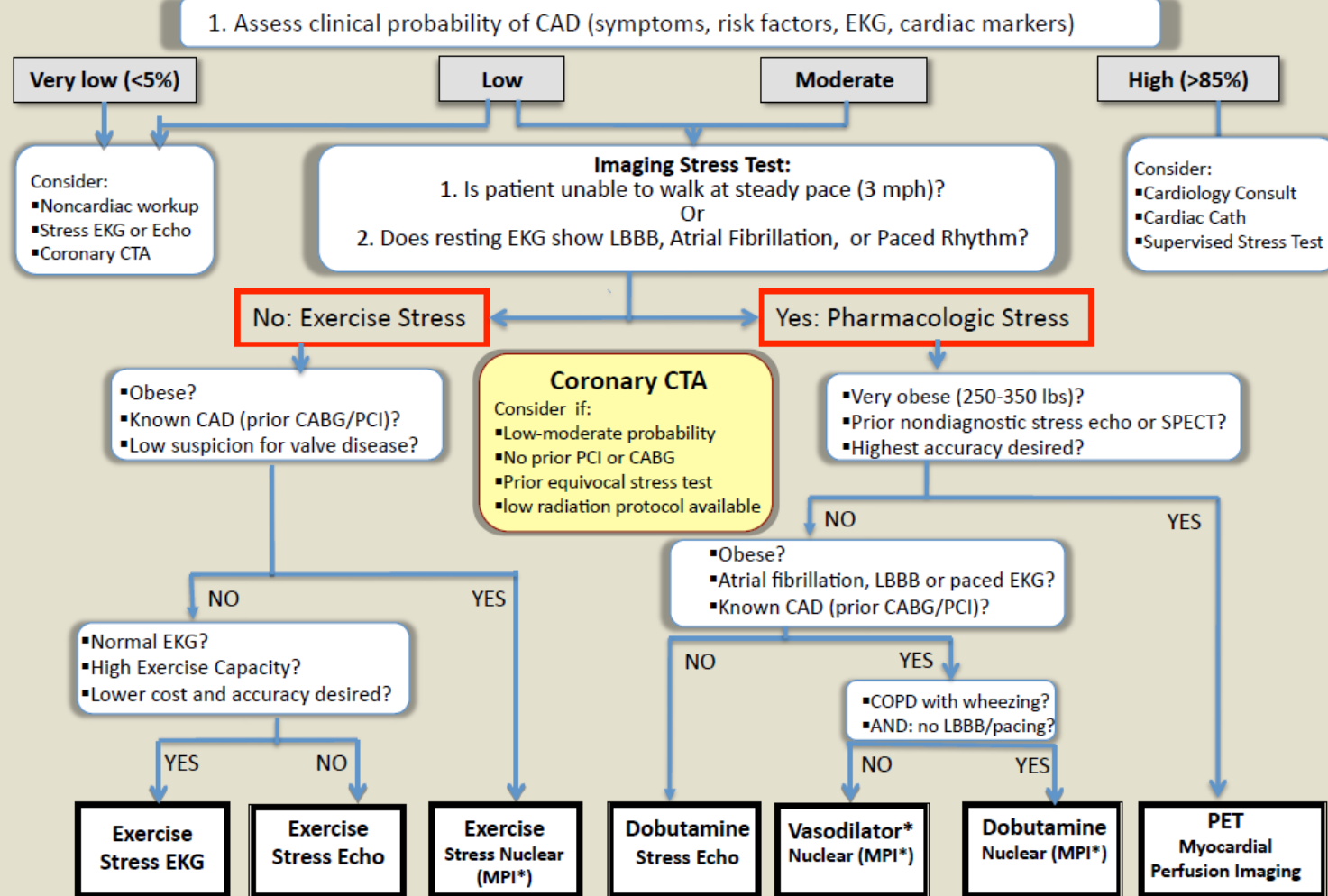
Arrhythmia:

No

Yes

## Cardiac Stress Testing: A Practical Guide for Test Selection

Kanny S. Grewal, MD (kanny.grewal@ohiohealth.com) *\*please obtain permission to reproduce*



\*MPI = Myocardial Perfusion Imaging – using sestamibi (Cardiolite®), thallium or alternate perfusion agent

\*Vasodilator = Adenosine, Regadenoson (Lexiscan®), or Dipyridamole based on lab protocol

Test	Preferred Settings:	Avoid if:
Exercise Stress EKG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lowest cost desired</li> <li>• Assess exercise capacity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resting EKG abnormalities</li> <li>• Unable to exercise</li> <li>• Higher accuracy desired</li> <li>• Localization of ischemia desired</li> </ul>
Exercise Stress Echo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good functional capacity</li> <li>• BMI &lt; 30</li> <li>• Valve disease suspected</li> <li>• Avoid Radiation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LBBB or Paced EKG</li> <li>• Unable to exercise</li> <li>• Obese patients, lung disease</li> <li>• Known Cardiomyopathy/ prior MI</li> </ul>
Exercise Stress Nuclear (Myocardial Perfusion Imaging: MPI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Able to exercise</li> <li>• Higher Accuracy Desired</li> <li>• Known CAD (prior PCI/CABG)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Valve disease suspected</li> </ul>
Dobutamine Echo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unable to exercise</li> <li>• Valve disease suspected</li> <li>• Avoid Radiation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LBBB or Paced EKG</li> <li>• Atrial or ventricular arrhythmia</li> <li>• Obese patients, lung disease</li> </ul>
Vasodilator Stress MPI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preferred test if unable to exercise</li> <li>• Known CAD (prior PCI/CABG)</li> <li>• Obese patients (but &lt; 400 lbs.)</li> <li>• LBBB or Paced EKG</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active Bronchospasm</li> <li>• Caffeine use &lt;12 hrs.</li> </ul>
Dobutamine Stress Nuclear MPI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unable to exercise</li> <li>• Active bronchospasm/ COPD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LBBB or Paced EKG</li> <li>• Atrial or ventricular arrhythmia</li> </ul>
Vasodilator PET MPI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unable to exercise or LBBB/ paced rhythm</li> <li>• Prior nondiagnostic Echo/ SPECT</li> <li>• Obese patients (but &lt; 350 lbs.)</li> <li>• Highest accuracy desired</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Valve disease suspected</li> <li>• Caffeine use &lt;12 hrs.</li> <li>• Currently only for Outpatients</li> </ul>
Cardiac CTA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age &lt;70,</li> <li>• Low/int probability</li> <li>• No known CAD</li> <li>• Anatomy assessment desired</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Known CAD (prior PCI or CABG)</li> <li>• Arrhythmia or tachycardia</li> <li>• Renal disease or iodine allergy</li> </ul>

## Cardiac Stress Testing: Practical Guide for Test Selection

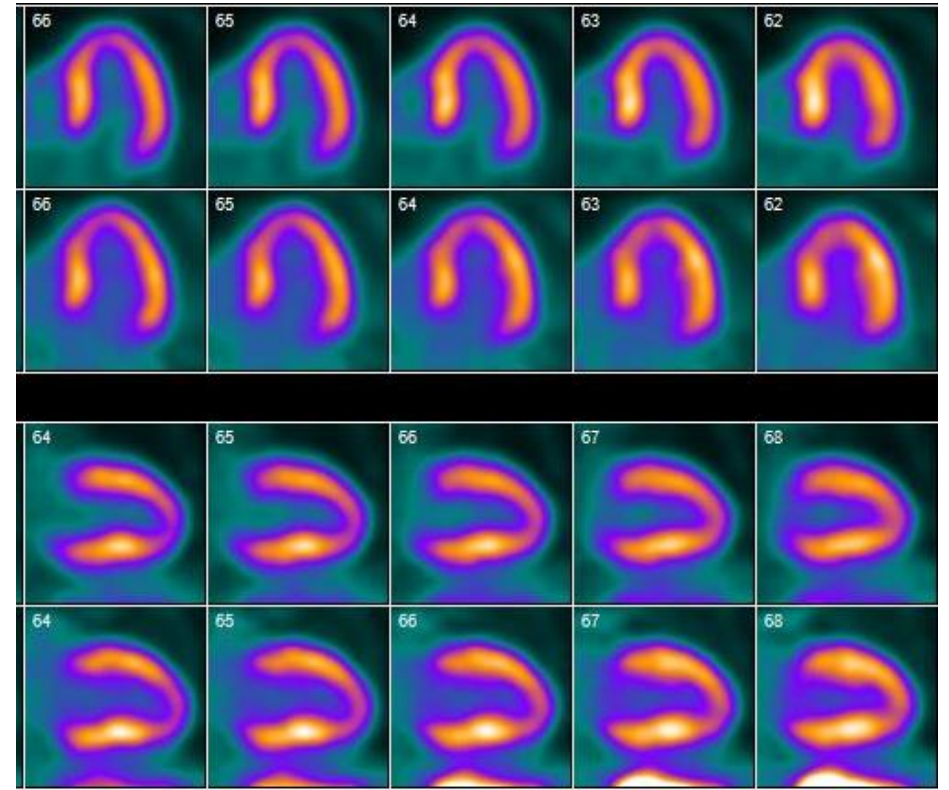
Kanny S. Grewal, MD  
Dennis A. Calnon, MD  
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David R. Richards, DO  
Thomas W. Goodlive, MD  
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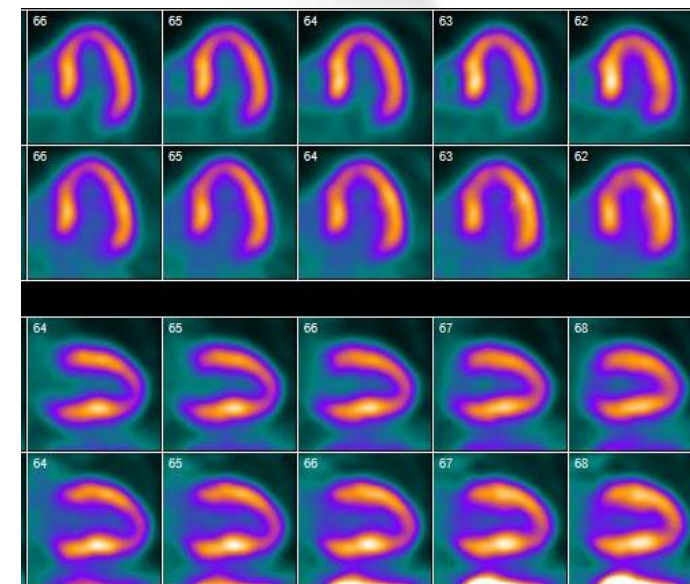
On call imaging physician:  
573.5338 or 738.8912

# Cardiac PET imaging



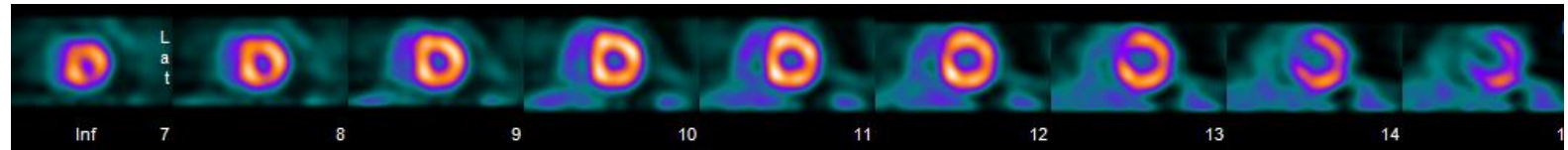
# PET perfusion imaging

- Highest quality perfusion imaging
- Higher accuracy, less artifact than SPECT
- Short half life, therefore quicker exam and less radiation exposure than SPECT
- Allows
  - rest and stress EF (EF reserve)
  - CT attenuation correction, allows CACS assessment
  - Rest/stress coronary flow assessment
- Assess Viability, Sarcoidosis, Endocarditis
- BUT. . . Expensive, requires pharmacologic stress

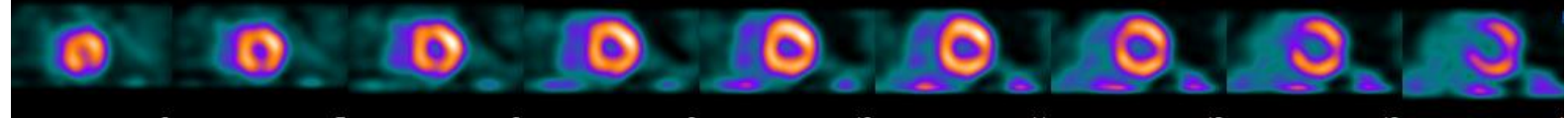


# Case 5: Rest and Stress PET perfusion

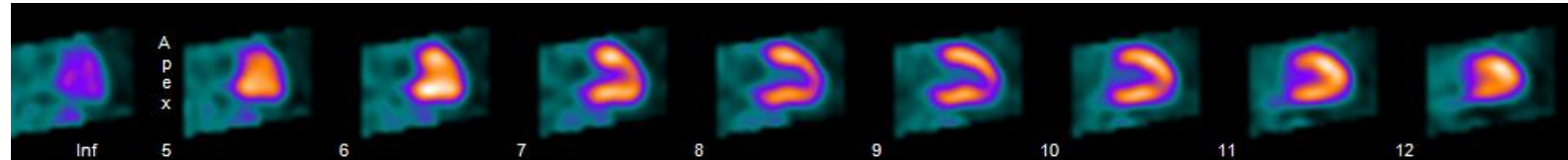
Peak-Stress



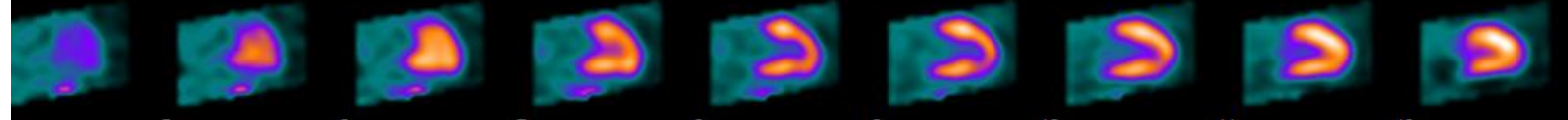
Rest



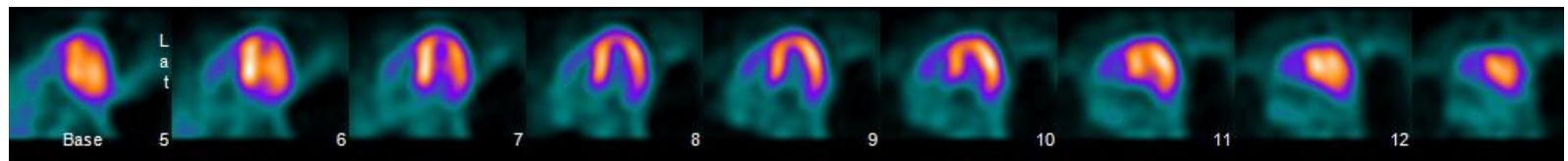
Peak-Stress



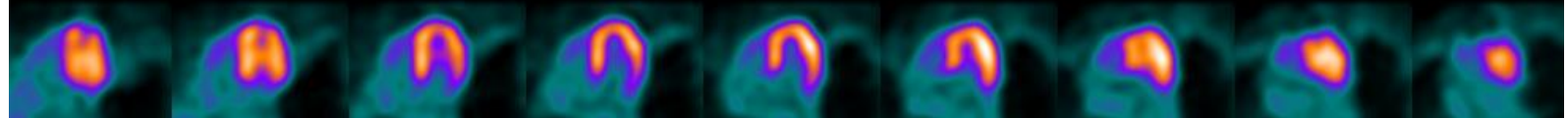
Rest



Peak-Stress



Rest



## Peak Stress

EF = 67%

EDV = 52 ml

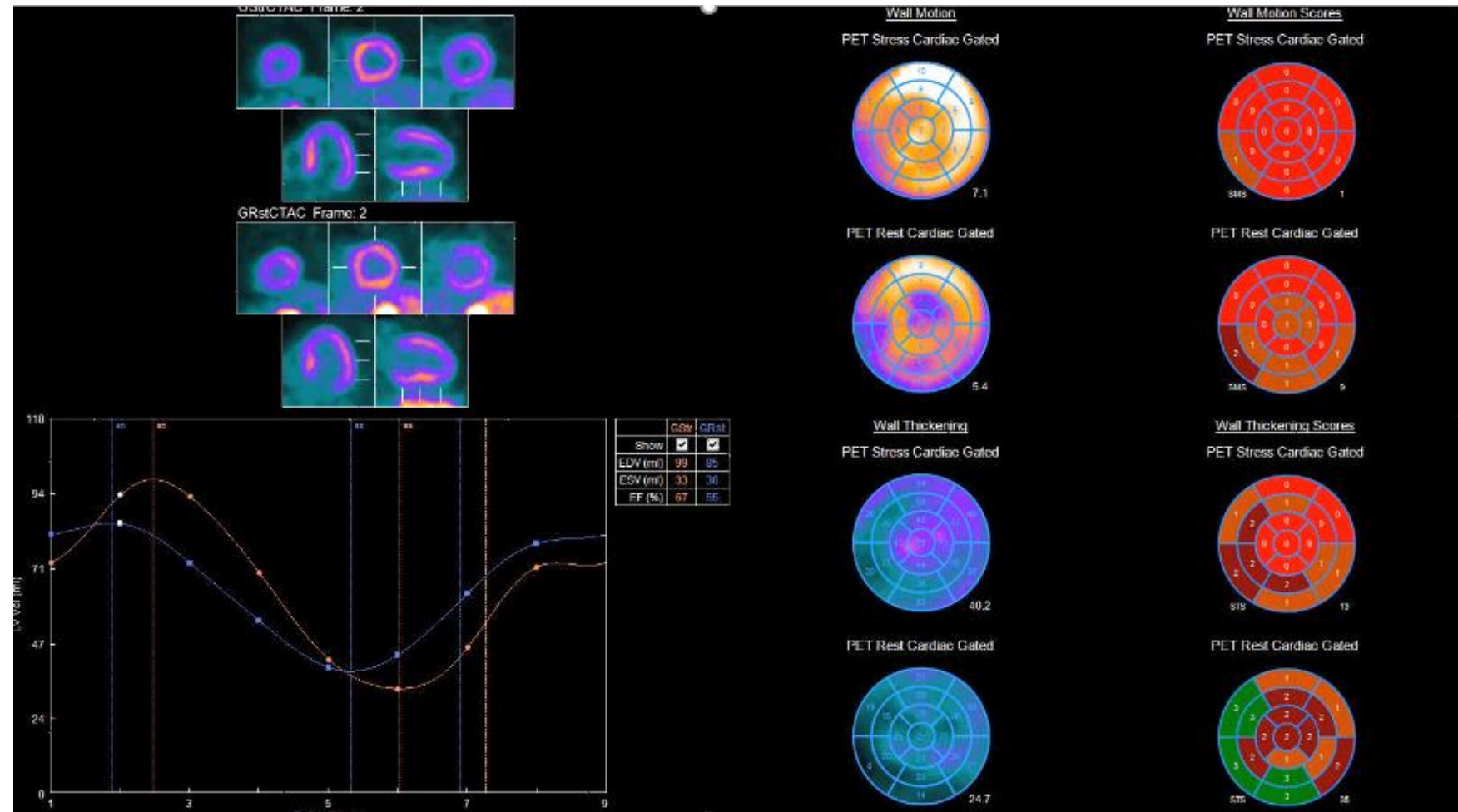
ESV = 17 ml

## Resting

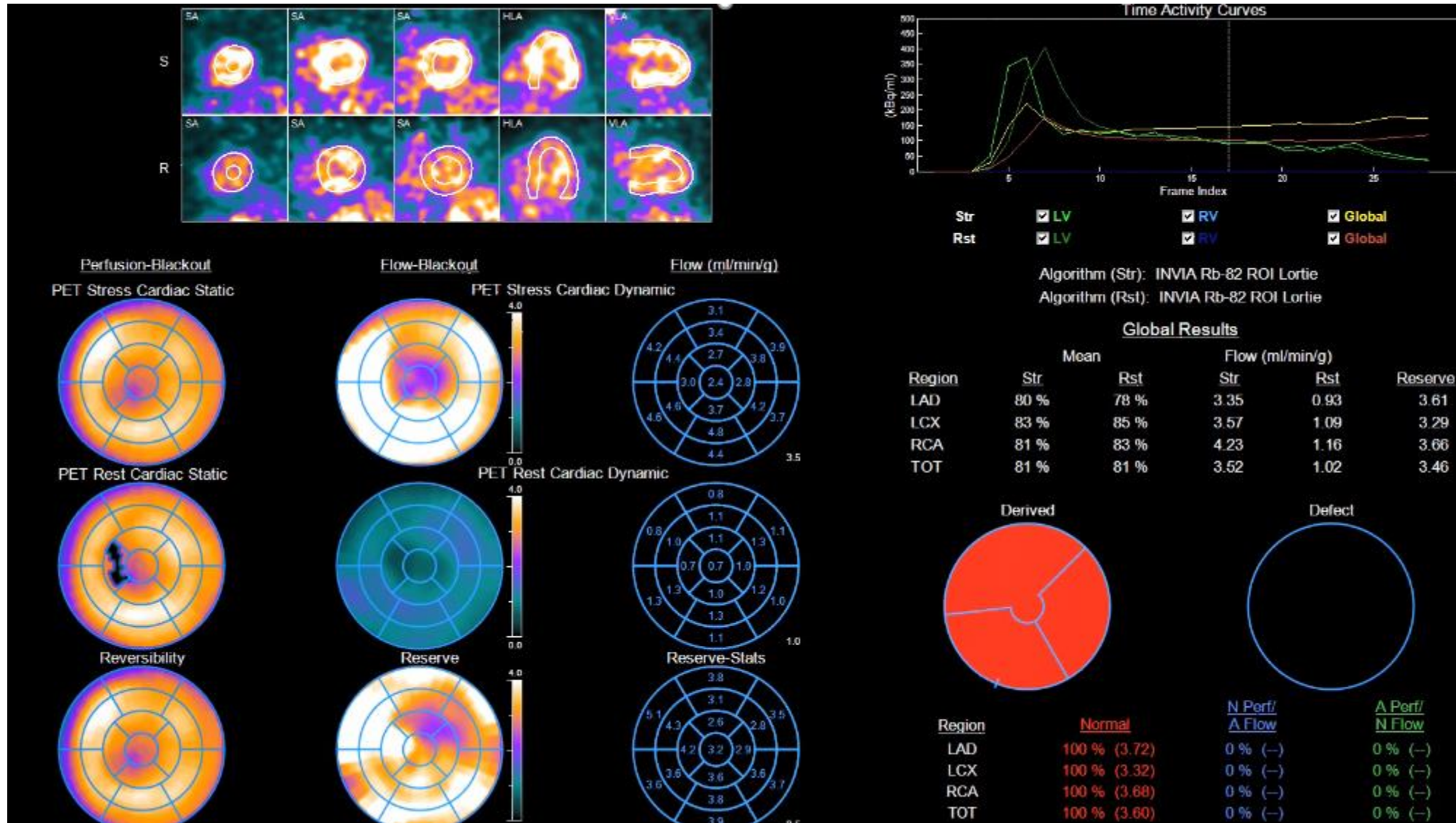
EF = 55%

EDV = 62 ml

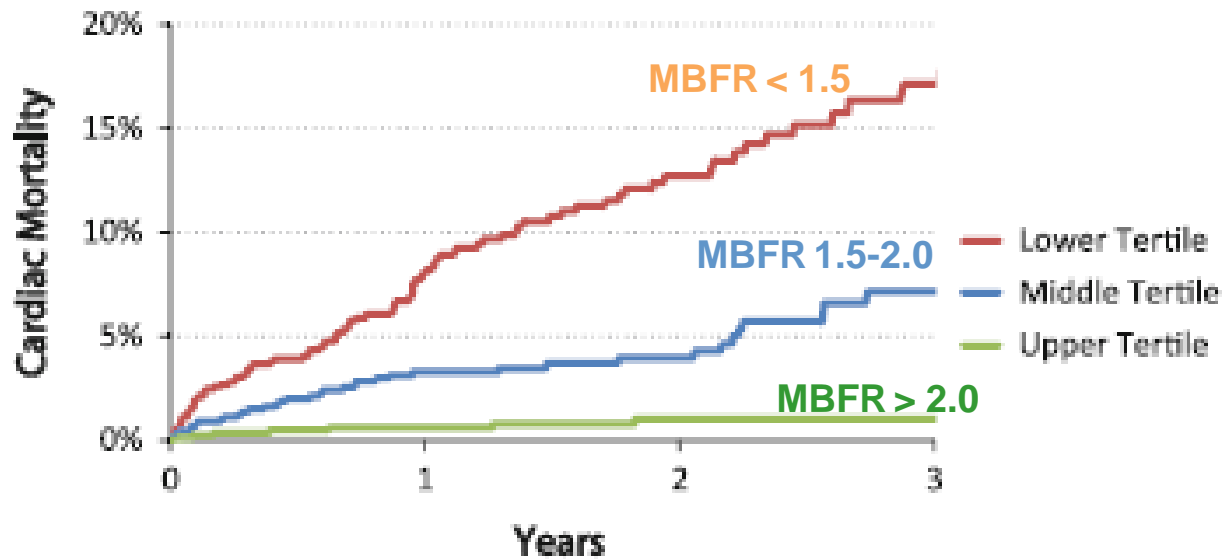
ESV = 21 ml



# Case 5: Quantitative MBF and MBFR



# Myocardial Blood Flow Reserve and Cardiac Mortality



MBFR < 1.5 vs MBFR > 2.0

\*p < 0.001

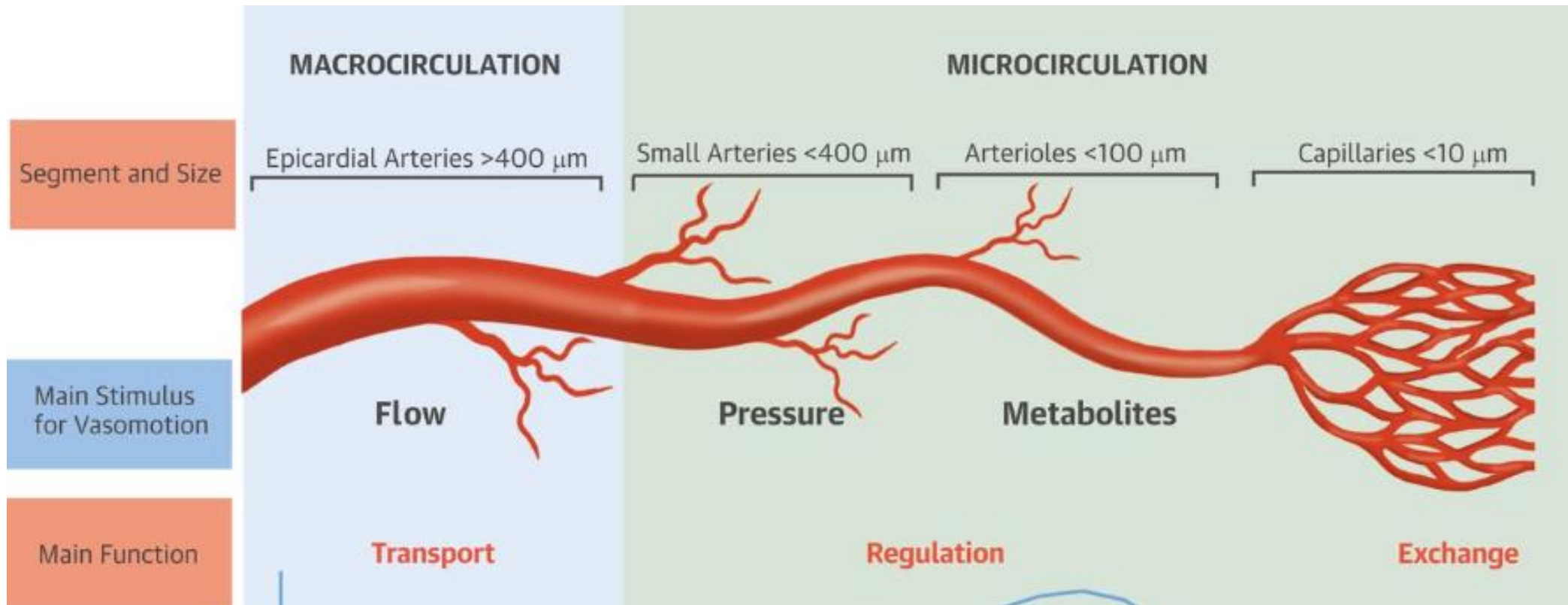
\*HR 5.6 (2.5-12.4)

MBFR 1.5-2.0 vs MBFR > 2.0

\*p = 0.003

\*HR 3.46 (1.5-7.7)

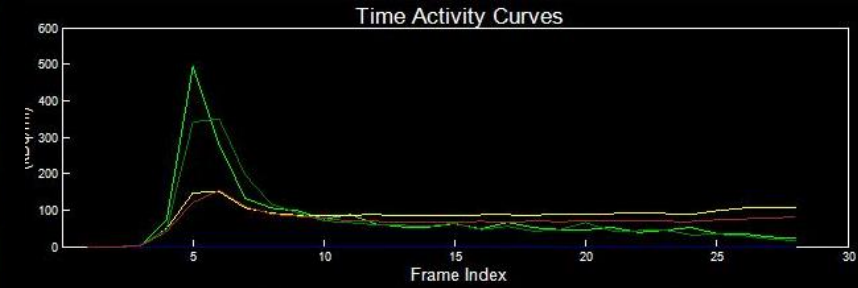
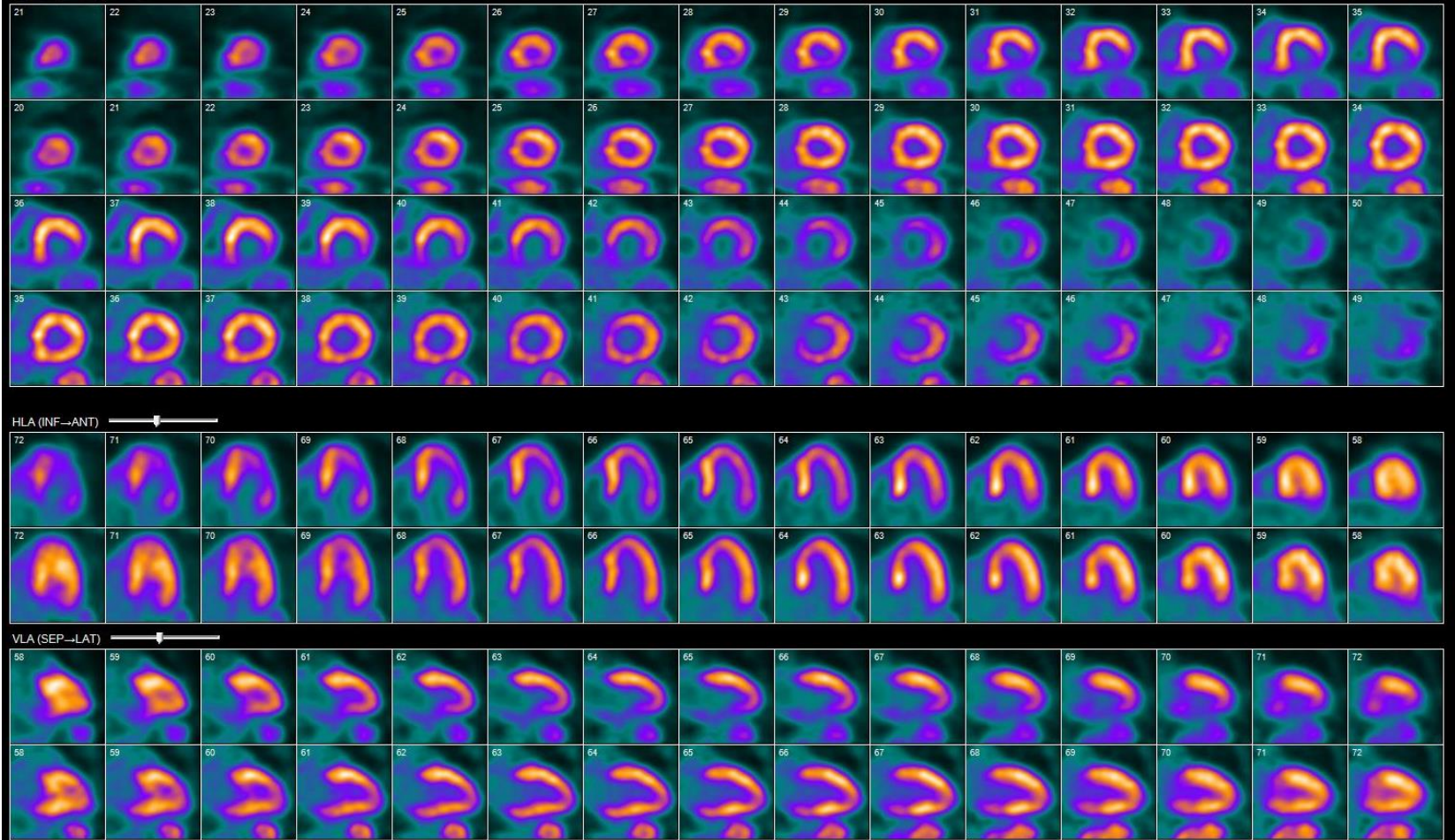
Murthy et al. Circulation 2011;124:2215-24



**FFR (Fractional Flow Reserve)**

**CFR (Coronary Flow Reserve)**

# Example: Inferior Ischemia



Str  LV  RV  Global  
 Rst  LV  RV  Global

Algorithm (Str): INVIA Rb-82 ROI Lortie

Algorithm (Rst): INVIA Rb-82 ROI Lortie

\* RPP normalization, RPP Reference = 9000

### Global Results

Region	Mean		Flow (ml/min/g)		Reserve
	Str	Rst	Str	Rst *	
LAD	85 %	84 %	2.20	0.81	2.71
LCX	71 %	88 %	1.79	0.83	2.16
RCA	61 %	83 %	1.27	0.77	1.64
TOT	75 %	85 %	1.79	0.78	2.28

# Thank You!

## Case Studies in Acute Chest Pain: Diagnosis, Risk Stratification, & Test Selection

April 17, 2019

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