Chest pain/Palpitations

Observations/NEWS on TRAK

Read Patient Alerts



Temperature

Pulse

Blood pressure

Respiratory rate

☑ Oxygen saturations (on air or O2 %)

Blood glucose

■ AVPU

M PAIN SCORE

Initial Investigations

Discuss with senior staff – not all patients will require all investigations

| Non-specific chest pain | Cardiac chest pain | Palpitations | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| -ECG as per guidance -Admission bloods (as per order set): FBC, U&E's, LFT's | -ECG as per guidance -Consider IV access -Chest pain bloods (as per order set): FBC, U&E's, Troponin Follow ED chest pain pathway *See next page. | -ECG as per guidance -Consider IV access - Admission bloods (as per order set): FBC, U&E's, LFT's add Ca, TFT and Mg | | | |

Also consider after discussion: Chest X-ray

Treatments

Consider:

- Analgesia oral or intravenous depending on pain severity score
- GTN if ?ischemic
- 300mg Aspirin if ?ischaemic (Check Have SAS given any)

Red Flags

- Ongoing cardiac pain: Abnormal ECG
- Significant cardiac history: Known recurrent dysrhythmia that has life threatening effects
- Know cardiac condition which may deteriorate rapidly
- Aortic chest pain: Sternum radiating to shoulder blade
- Aortic abdominal pain: Central radiating to the back
- Aortic Pain: May vanish and recur elsewhere, pain may also progress elsewhere e.g. arms, neck, lower jaw, stomach or hips.
- Appearance: Sweaty, clammy, pallor.

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| | | Review Date 07/02/2026 | | Author: Dr G Pickeri Hughes | ng, H Godfrey, C | NHS | NEDIC ON |