

# Chest Pain Algorithm

## Sibley Heart Center Cardiology



### Pain Features

Acute onset (<48 hours)  
Positional (worse supine, improved with leaning forward)  
With exercise

YES

NO  
↓

### Associated Symptoms

Palpitations  
Syncope  
Unexplained shortness of breath

YES

NO  
↓

### Additional Symptoms

Syncope during exercise, emotion or startle  
Syncope after exercise  
Extreme fatigue associated with exercise (different from others their age)  
Unusual or extreme shortness of breath

YES

NO  
↓

### Additional Medical History

Congenital Heart Disease  
Kawasaki Disease  
Turner Syndrome

YES

NO  
↓

Obtain  
Cardiovascular  
Evaluation

## Family History

Any family members who died suddenly of heart problems before age 50?

Any family members who have unexplained fainting or seizures?

Any relatives with the following conditions:

- Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
- Dilated cardiomyopathy
- Connective tissue disorder (Marfan or Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome)
- Aortic Rupture, dissection or aneurysm

YES

NO

## Physical Exam Features

Unexplained fever

Signs of connective tissue disease (Marfan)

Pathologic Murmur

Rub

Click

Kawasaki criteria

Signs of heart failure

Xanthomas

YES

NO

Obtain  
Cardiovascular  
Evaluation

**Chest pain is likely non-cardiac - patient does not require cardiovascular evaluation**

**To make a referral, call 404-256-2593 or 800-542-2233**

