

Atypical Heart Attack

Scenario Overview:
This scenario present an unusual set of symptoms from a heart attack and encourages students to consider atypical presentations. You are called to a woman sat outside who is flushed and sweating. She complains of having hot flashes and nausea and appears a little confused. She is with her friend, who called the ambulance. The patient insists that she does not need help.
Difficulty:
First Aider Difficult
How the scenario should progress:
The patient will initially be alert although a little confused. As the scenario progresses though, the patient will become more and more agitated and worried and will become unresponsive.
Actor Tips:
Initially appear agitated and not wanting help but then become more worried throughout the scenario.

Patient 1:
Name: Lilly May Age: 55 Sex: Female
Medication: Captopril (for hypertension)
Allergies: None Known
Past medical/family/social history: Hypertension, high cholesterol. Mum died after a heart attack when she was 61.
Findings on examination: Sweaty, flushed, nauseated, dizzy, 'feeling ill'. Dull back pain that is spread across the whole of the upper back. Nothing makes the pain better or worse although it does seem to be getting 'tighter' as time goes on. The patient hasn't been feeling great recently although the patient puts this down to stress because her husband isn't well and she has been busy looking after him. The patient appears fairly overweight. During scenario, the patient will try to stand but will feel very light-headed and immediately sits back down.
Possible treatment from first aiders: Good history. Request additional help (an ECG would probably be useful!). Reassess after change in response.

Time after start:	1 min	5min
Response:	Alert	Unresponsive
Airway:	yes	yes
Breathing?	yes	yes
Respirations:	14 regular	17 short
Pulse:	100 strong, slightly irregular	110 irregular
Oxygen Sats:	95	88

Blood Pressure:	155/96	160/99
Blood Glucose:	4.5	4.4