

**PRACTICAL PEARLS: Chest Pain**

<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chest pain is a common and generally benign complaint especially if it does not occur with exertion.</li> <li>• The most common cause of chest pain is musculoskeletal chest pain.</li> <li>• Rare cardiac causes include myocarditis and pericarditis.</li> </ul>
<b>INITIAL EVALUATION AND MANAGEMENT BY PRIMARY CARE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ED evaluation if there are abnormal PE findings such as gallop, rub, peripheral edema, hypoxia, ill appearance, significant tachycardia, tachypnea and fever</li> <li>• Perform a complete family history and physical exam</li> <li>• Consider ECG if chest pain not consistent with musculoskeletal origin</li> </ul>
<b>WHEN TO REFER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chest pain that radiates to the jaw, chin, back or left shoulder; Increased pain with position changes.</li> <li>• Chest pain with exertion without underlying suspicion for asthma or deconditioning.</li> <li>• Family history in a first degree relative or multiple family members with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, sudden cardiac death&lt;50 years of age, familial hyperlipidemia</li> <li>• pulmonary hypertension, pathologic murmur</li> <li>• Abnormal ECG</li> </ul>
<b>HOW TO REFER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (413) 794-KIDS Pediatric Cardiology</li> </ul>
<b>WHAT TO EXPECT FROM BAYSTATE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL VISIT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive evaluation for cardiac cause of chest pain which may include echocardiography</li> <li>• Patient guidance and reassurance in the setting of a normal well child <a href="http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/128/2/239.full.pdf+html?sid=63ffca76-110e-43ea-8d78-7d1e26c3a565">http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/128/2/239.full.pdf+html?sid=63ffca76-110e-43ea-8d78-7d1e26c3a565</a></li> </ul>

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**July 2015**

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