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## In reply

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is time to promote the use of the 0/1-hour algorithm to lessen ED congestion and reduce the risk of nosocomial coronavirus disease 2019 infection.

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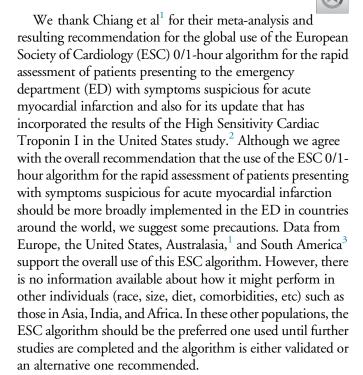
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 Nowak RM, Christenson RH, Jacobsen G, et al. Performance of novel high-sensitivity cardiac troponin I assays for 0/1-hour and 0/2- to 3-hour

- evaluations for acute myocardial infarction: results from the HIGH-US study. *Ann Emerg Med.* 2020;76:1-13.
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*In reply:* 



We report, as others have, that the ESC high sensitivity cardiac troponin I acute myocardial infarction rule-out cut points are also applicable to many subgroups of patients presenting to the ED, including those with symptoms onset in less than or equal to 3 hours. However, we do not know whether outcomes will be the same for patients presenting to the ED with even shorter symptoms onset (≤1 hour) because few of these patients have been studied. Consequently, in our opinion, it remains prudent to consider a third high sensitivity cardiac troponin I test later for the rule-out of acute myocardial infarction in these very early presenters until more data concerning this patient population are available.

The good news is that using the ESC 0/1-hour acute myocardial infarction assessment algorithm in the

coronavirus disease 2019 era to rule out cardiac injury should decrease ED congestion, given its high negative predictive and sensitivity values for acute myocardial infarction ruleout. However, coronavirus disease 2019 patients with elevated high sensitivity cardiac troponin measurements reflecting acute cardiac injury will have more complex management because the cardiac injury may be caused by circulating cytokines from severe systemic inflammatory stress, leading to atherosclerotic plaque instability and rupture (type 1 acute myocardial infarction); caused by increased myocardial demand from the infection, causing a supply-demand mismatch (type 2 acute myocardial infarction); or possibly caused by acute myocarditis caused directly by the virus itself.<sup>4</sup> Although coronavirus disease 2019 patients with acute cardiac injury have a worse clinical prognosis, it will be more difficult to determine the exact cause of the cardiac injury and hence what the optimal therapeutic approach should be for each patient.

Ultimately, we, along with Chiang et al, believe that the global implementation of a rapid high sensitivity cardiac troponin algorithm for the assessment of patients with possible acute myocardial infarction or cardiac injury will result in optimal patient assessments and outcomes. Last, the use of high sensitivity cardiac troponin in the ED is a rapidly evolving field, and so alternative algorithms for the rapid assessment of acute myocardial infarction in the ED may soon be recommended.

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