

Common causes of chest pain

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(I)

Cardiac chest pain:

a.

Ischemic eg. coronary artery disease, hypertension, pulmonary hypertension, aortic stenosis or regurgitation, hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, arrhythmias, congenital heart disease, severe anemia, severe hypoxia, polycythemia etc.

b.

Nonischemic eg. aortic dissection or aneurysm, pericarditis, mitral valve prolapse, myocarditis, cardiomyopathy etc.

(II)

Non-Cardiac chest pain:

- a. **Pulmonary causes** eg. pulmonary embolism, pneumothorax, pneumonia, pleuritis, pulmonary hypertension, intrathoracic tumors etc.
- b. **Gastrointestinal causes:** eg. diffuse esophageal spasm, gastroesophageal reflex, esophageal tear or rupture, esophagitis, peptic disease, pancreatitis, gallbladder disease, splenic infarction etc.

- c. **Neuromusculoskeletal causes** : eg. thoracic outlet syndrome, costochondritis (Tietze syndrome), trauma or strain, malignancy, polymyalgia, fibromyalgia, herpes zoster etc
- d. **Psychiatric causes**: eg. depression, anxiety, panic, malingering
- e. **Other causes** : eg. cocaine, diabetes mellitus, uremia, renal stones, mediastinitis etc