

Ref. No: 030140422
From: Charity
Date: 14/04/22
Subject: Suspected heart related conditions

REQUEST & RESPONSE

The Aortic Dissection Charitable Trust is the UK's first charity dedicated to aortic dissection. We are undertaking a piece of work to better understand if Trusts have policies and / or procedures in place for the management of patients with chest pain, suspected aortic dissection and diagnosed aortic dissection. From this we hope to produce a standard policy / procedure for the NHS.

We would therefore like to submit a FOI request for the following information:

1. Do you have a policy and/or written procedures for how your trust responds to patients presenting at A&E with chest pain or suspected heart related conditions?

Yes. We have low risk chest pain pathway which asks clinicians to consider non ischaemic causes including dissection. If ACS confirmed we have an ACS pathway.



2021-61655890c70a
a0.17687486.pdf

We are in process of reviewing this and highlight aortic dissection further and nearer the start of the pathway.

We also have the 'could it be aortic dissection' decision making tool which is copied below.

2. Do you have a policy and/or written procedures for managing suspected aortic dissection?
3. Do you have a policy and/or written procedures for managing aortic dissection once diagnosed? Please provide a copy of these

Yes both Q 2 and 3 covered in following documents:



acute-aortic-syndrom
e-pathway-v3.pdf



Dissection decision
support.docx

4. If you have a policy or procedures in place regarding aortic dissection, what is the trust's process for ensuring that all clinical staff are made aware and are reminded?

We have all the above documents on the Emergency department intranet. We also have the 'think aorta' posters up in the department.

Aortic dissection is covered in FY2 teaching, ACCS teaching and in induction.



A3-ADA-Poster-v1.0.
0.9.pdf

5. If you provide training, please provide a copy of the training material. Do you have any training / induction to ensure that all staff are familiar with it?

All of the above documents are provided/available for trainees as well as all other relevant staff. It is also covered in induction and in the 'key things not to miss'.