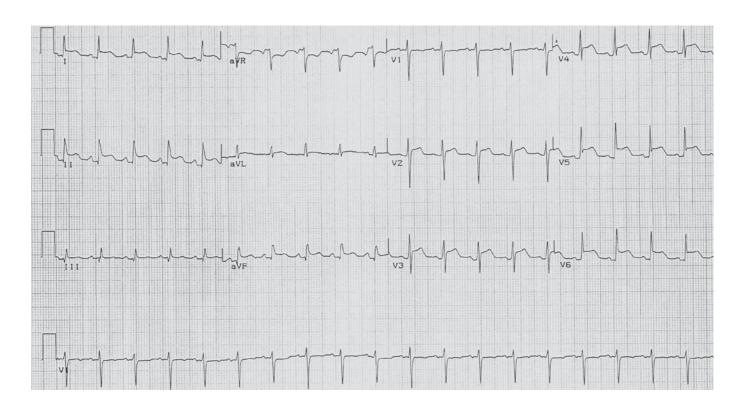


A Okreglicki Cardiac Clinic University of Cape Town / Groote Schuur Hospital Cardiac Arrhythmia Society of Southern Africa (CASSA)



A 37-year-old man presents to the Emergency Unit with severe continuous chest pain for a few hours, shortness of breath and sweating. He has no past medical history. He takes no regular medications but smokes and uses recreational drugs occasionally. On examination he is distressed, clammy, with temperature of 38°C, pulse rate 120, BP100/55, JVP not elevated, chest clear and normal heart sounds. This is his ECG.

QUESTION: Which ONE of the following is the best treatment?

(a) IV streptokinase
(b) Heparin
(c) Analgesia
(d) Emergency cardiac catheterization and coronary intervention (PCI)
(e) IV amiodarone.

Please analyze the ECG carefully and commit yourself to an answer before checking the explanation.

ANSWER on page 46