



This 66-year-old man presented to a secondary hospital with a 2 hour history of severe central chest pain, accompanied by shortness of breath and sweating. He had no previous cardiac symptoms, nor history of stroke. BP 110/80.

QUESTION: As the casualty officer on duty, which of the following treatment options would you choose?

1. Arrange transfer to a tertiary hospital for coronary angiography (approximately 2 hours away).
2. Await the result of Troponin T.
3. Immediately administer aspirin and a full dose of a thrombolytic.
4. Arrange a chest X-ray to assess the ascending aorta before deciding on therapy.
5. Administer a sublingual nitrate and repeat the ECG.
6. Give morphine for pain relief and admit for observation.

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

ANSWER on page 476