Presentation and Cardiac Outcomes in Women and Men Reporting to the ED with Chest Pain:
Symptoms, ACS, 30 Day Cardiac Events
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**BACKGROUND**
- Chest pain is the most frequent symptom that triggers consideration for acute coronary syndrome (ACS).
- It is controversial whether women and men with ACS have the same or different presenting symptoms.
- It is also unclear whether reports of differences in ACS presentation in women and men may be related to, sex, age, or type of ACS.

**OBJECTIVES**
1. To compare the frequency of men and women presenting to the ED who were diagnosed with ACS.
2. To determine whether women presenting to the ED and diagnosed with ACS have atypical symptoms, more risk factors, and higher rate of follow-up cardiac events compared to men.

**METHODS**
- Patients: Men and women (>21 yrs) presenting to UCD ED with chest pain and symptoms suspicious for ACS.
- Excluded: non-cardiac/trauma-related chest pain.
- Study period: March 2018 - December 2018
- Assessment:
  - Groups: Data of pts diagnosed with ACS separated into 4 categories: M NSTEMI, W NSTEMI, M STEMI, W STEMI.
  - Symptoms: Symptoms associated with ACS assigned a score:**
    - Atypical: 0, Intermediate: 0.5, Typical: 1.
  - Patients afforded total score categorizing the pain:
    - Non-ischemic (0-1.5), Possible ischemic (2-3.5), Typical ischemic pain (4-5).
  - Risk Factors: RF based on the HEART score. Patients categorized into 3 group:**
    - 0, 1-2, 3+ risk factors.
  - Follow-up: 30 days for ischemic outcomes.

**RESULTS**
- More men than women presenting to the ED with chest pain were diagnosed with ACS.
- In men and women presenting with ACS, there were no significant differences in symptoms, risk factors, or 30 day cardiac events.
- Larger studies are required to further assess the question of differences between men and women with ACS.

**LIMITATIONS**
- Retrospective, single center study
- Small sample size
- No risk adjustment for demographic, clinical factors
- Symptom data from MD notes
- Follow up limited to 30 days

**CONCLUSIONS**
- More men than women presenting to the ED with chest pain were diagnosed with ACS.
- In men and women presenting with ACS, there were no significant differences in symptoms, risk factors, or 30 day cardiac events.
- Larger studies are required to further assess the question of differences between men and women with ACS.
- [Our data on symptoms of STEMI in men and women may differ significantly with a larger study cohort]