

<p> QUESTION A 60-year-old male with a long history of hypertension and hyperlipidemia presents to the emergency department with acute-onset chest pain and shortness of breath. The patient reports a tearing sensation in the chest that radiates to the back. The physical examination is unremarkable. An electrocardiogram (ECG) shows sinus tachycardia. A chest X-ray is normal. The patient's blood pressure is 180/110 mmHg. </p>	
<p> ANSWER The most likely diagnosis is aortic dissection. The patient's symptoms, including acute-onset tearing chest pain radiating to the back, are characteristic of this condition. The physical examination is unremarkable, and the chest X-ray is normal, which further supports this diagnosis. The patient's history of hypertension and hyperlipidemia are risk factors for aortic dissection. </p>	<p> EXPLANATION Aortic dissection is a life-threatening condition characterized by a tear in the inner layer of the aorta, allowing blood to flow into the wall of the artery and create a false lumen. This can lead to aortic rupture, stroke, or other complications. The patient's symptoms and physical examination findings are consistent with aortic dissection. The chest X-ray is normal, which is a common finding in this condition. The patient's history of hypertension and hyperlipidemia are risk factors for aortic dissection. </p>

<p> QUESTION A 45-year-old male with a long history of hypertension and hyperlipidemia presents to the emergency department with acute-onset chest pain and shortness of breath. The patient reports a tearing sensation in the chest that radiates to the back. The physical examination is unremarkable. An electrocardiogram (ECG) shows sinus tachycardia. A chest X-ray is normal. The patient's blood pressure is 180/110 mmHg. </p>	
<p> ANSWER The most likely diagnosis is aortic dissection. The patient's symptoms, including acute-onset tearing chest pain radiating to the back, are characteristic of this condition. The physical examination is unremarkable, and the chest X-ray is normal, which further supports this diagnosis. The patient's history of hypertension and hyperlipidemia are risk factors for aortic dissection. </p>	<p> EXPLANATION Aortic dissection is a life-threatening condition characterized by a tear in the inner layer of the aorta, allowing blood to flow into the wall of the artery and create a false lumen. This can lead to aortic rupture, stroke, or other complications. The patient's symptoms and physical examination findings are consistent with aortic dissection. The chest X-ray is normal, which is a common finding in this condition. The patient's history of hypertension and hyperlipidemia are risk factors for aortic dissection. </p>

ANSWERS

