

QUESTION

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- A 65-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 his chest that radiates to his back. His vital signs are stable, and physical examination is unremarkable. An electrocardiogram (ECG) shows sinus tachycardia. A computed tomography (CT) scan of the chest reveals a large, crescent-shaped intramural hematoma in the descending aorta.

ANSWER

- Aortic dissection

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 vessel and create a false lumen.

DISCUSSION

- Risk factors include hypertension, atherosclerosis, and connective tissue disorders.

REFERENCES

- [1]

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- [1] American Heart Association. Aortic Dissection. <https://www.heart.org/en/health-topics/aortic-disease/aortic-dissection>. Accessed [Date].

REFERENCES

- [1]

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