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Left bundle, right diagnosis

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A 79-year-old male was brought to the emergency department by emergency medical services (EMS) with retrosternal chest pain radiating to both shoulders. The pain started 2 hours ago while he was working in his garden. His medical history included hypertension, hypercholesterolaemia and a transient ischaemic attack. Physical examination showed tachypnoea, 37 breaths per minute, without abnormalities at pulmonary or cardiac auscultation, a heart rate of 88 beats per minute, a blood pressure of 111/73 mmHg and unremarkable findings on abdominal examination. However, the patient looked clammy and grey. Nitroglycerine (GNT) administered sublingually relieved the pain. A partial electrocardiogram was performed by an EMS nurse (Fig. 1). Which abnormalities raise your concern?

- A. A new left bundle branch block
- B. The negative T wave in leads V5 and V6
- C. The ST depression in leads V2–V4
- D. The irregularity of the cardiac rhythm

Answer

You will find the answer elsewhere in this issue.

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Fig. 1 The anterior electrocardiogram leads at presentation performed by emergency medical services