

UNEXPLAINED SYNCOPES

Cardiac Risk-Assessment Checklist



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HIGH-RISK RED FLAGS

When evaluating syncope patients, the following criteria are deemed high-risk and favour further evaluation in an expedited time frame.

SYNCOPES PATIENT CHARACTERISTICS:

- ◆ Complete loss of consciousness
- ◆ Loss of motor control
- ◆ Patient awoke on his/her own
- ◆ Short event (<5 min)
- ◆ Event **not due** to head trauma, epilepsy, major bleed

SYNCOPES CIRCUMSTANCES

- SYNCOPES WHILE SUPINE
- SYNCOPES DURING EXERTION
- INJURY CAUSED BY SYNCOPES

SYMPTOMS BEFORE SYNCOPES

- Absence of prodrome
- Chest pain/discomfort
- Breathlessness
- Palpitations

PATIENT HISTORY

- Family history of sudden cardiac death at young age
- Severe structural heart disease or coronary artery disease
- New ECG abnormalities
- Occupational risk to patient



IF 1 OR MORE RED FLAGS, FAST-TRACK FOR FURTHER EVALUATION

▶▶▶ In-hospital observation OR cardiology*