

Entrustable Professional Activity

Chest Pain

Area of practice	Emergency Department of an urban Australian Hospital
Stage of training	Postgraduate Year 1 (Intern). This entrustable professional activity is expected to be achieved by the end of the ED term in the first intern year.
Basis of entrustment	<p>Supervision of new graduates is required throughout the intern year, with the supervisor present in the ED. However, the intensity of supervision and level of entrustment varies according to the individual intern's ability. The level of supervision may be defined according to three stages.</p> <p>Stage 1: Direct active – Full supervision at bedside. After the supervisor's initial assessment of the patient, the intern assesses the patient with regular prompting and feedback from the supervisor.</p> <p>Stage 2: Indirect active – Partial supervision within line of sight. Supervisor pre-prompts intern to assess the patient. The intern reports back their assessment of the patient to the supervisor.</p> <p>Stage 3: Passive – Full entrustment with the supervisor present in the ED. The supervisor entrusts the intern to initiate assessment of the patient and report back their findings with minimal prompting and feedback.</p> <p>The following activity will be entrusted at Stage 3 when: The supervisor is confident that the intern can perform the activity at an acceptable standard and that the intern knows when to ask for help in a timely manner.</p>
Title	Assess, synthesise and prioritise the initial management of an adult presentation of acute chest pain
Description	<p>Interns must be able to assess, synthesise and prioritise key steps required in managing care of an adult patient presenting with acute chest pain.</p> <p>They must have the ability to conduct a patient history and examination relevant to acute chest pain in a timely manner.</p> <p>They must select, justify and interpret appropriate investigations and synthesise findings to formulate a working diagnosis.</p> <p>Interns must be able to commence initial therapeutic steps</p>

	<p>within guidelines applicable to the setting where they work. They must have knowledge of causes, investigations and treatment options relevant to acute chest pain, and be able to recognise typical presentations of life threatening diseases. Interns must also have the ability to recognise the signs and symptoms of a critically ill patient, and seek supervisory assistance with appropriate urgency.</p>
Justification	<p>Chest pain is one of the most common presentations in the emergency department. The ability to conduct an accurate initial assessment of acute chest pain in adult patients is important in order to manage potentially life threatening conditions. In the emergency department, initial assessment of patients with acute chest pain requires the integration of multiple competencies and the ability to execute these in a busy clinical environment with multiple distractions.</p>
ACFJD competencies	<p>Clinical management – Safe patient care (Systems; Radiation safety); Patient assessment (History and examination; Problem formulation; Investigations; Referral and consultation); Emergencies (Assessment; Prioritisation); Patient management (Management options) Communication – Patient interaction (Respect); Managing information (Written); Working in teams (Team structure; Case presentation) Professionalism – Doctor and society (Professional standards); Professional behaviour (Professional responsibility; Time management; Personal well-being) Skills and procedures – General (Measurement; Interpretation of results; Intravenous; Diagnostic); Cardiopulmonary Clinical problems and conditions – Circulatory</p>
KSA required	<p>Entrustment is based on the intern demonstrating sufficient aspects of the following knowledge, skills and attitudes.</p> <p>Knowledge Demonstrates knowledge of chest pain causes Demonstrates knowledge of signs and symptoms indicating patient is critically ill Demonstrates knowledge of differential diagnoses related to chest pain, such as aortic dissection, pulmonary embolism, and myocardial infarction Demonstrates knowledge of relevant investigations and treatment options for chest pain</p>

	<p>Demonstrates knowledge of local guidelines in managing patients with chest pain (such as chest pain pathways)</p> <p>Skills</p> <p>Recognises signs of critical illness and can ask for help when needed with appropriate urgency Takes a focused, relevant and succinct patient history in a timely manner Performs a relevant and focused physical examination, including vital signs Synthesises information to formulate provisional diagnosis Performs procedural skills (venepuncture, cannulation) Selects, requests and can justify relevant investigations (ECG, chest x-ray, blood tests) Interprets relevant investigations (ECG, chest x-ray, blood tests) Recognises abnormal results from investigations (ECG, chest x-ray, blood tests) Simple pain management within appropriate guidelines for the setting Formulates and can justify initial management plan Maintains accurate and thorough documentation Presents case clearly and succinctly to senior doctors and other staff</p> <p>Attitude</p> <p>Adheres to professional standards Aware of own limitations and asks for help appropriately Respects patient privacy and confidentiality Treats patients courteously and respectfully Respects other health professional team members Behaves in ways to mitigate the personal health risks of emergency medicine, such as fatigue and stress</p>
Assessment process	This EPA is progressively assessed during clinical supervision.
Assessment methods	Direct observation Structured interviewing Case presentation Multi-source feedback