



Medical Therapy for Acute ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction

Drug Class	Preferred Agents	Indications	Timing of Therapy	Contraindications
Fibrinolytic agents	Retepase, tenecteplase	PCI unavailable	<6–12 h	See table Contraindications
Glycoprotein IIb/IIIa inhibitors	Abciximab	All ACS	On decision to go to catheterization laboratory	CABG, coagulopathy, renal failure
Narcotic analgesics	Morphine	Severe pain	On presentation	Respiratory depression
Antithrombotic agents	Heparin/LMWH	All ACS	On presentation	Thrombocytopenia, drug allergy
Nitrates	Sublingual, oral, intravenous	Angina	On presentation	Hypotension
β-blockers	Any β-blocker	Active ischemic symptoms and for prophylaxis	On admission, usually in CCU or ED	HF, bradycardia, asthma
Antiplatelet agents	Clopidogrel, aspirin	Unless contraindicated	On decision to go to catheterization laboratory	Upcoming CABG surgery, coagulopathy
ACE inhibitors	Any ACE inhibitor	HF, increased blood pressure	On admission	Hypotension, renal failure
Statins	Any statin	Coronary artery disease	On admission	Sensitivity, myopathy

ACS = acute coronary syndrome; CABG = coronary artery bypass grafting; CCU = cardiac care unit; HF = heart failure; ED = emergency department; LMWH = low-molecular-weight heparin; MI = myocardial infarction.

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