

EXPERT CONSENSUS DOCUMENT

Fourth Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction (2018)

Joint ESC/ACC/AHA/WHF Task Force for the Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction

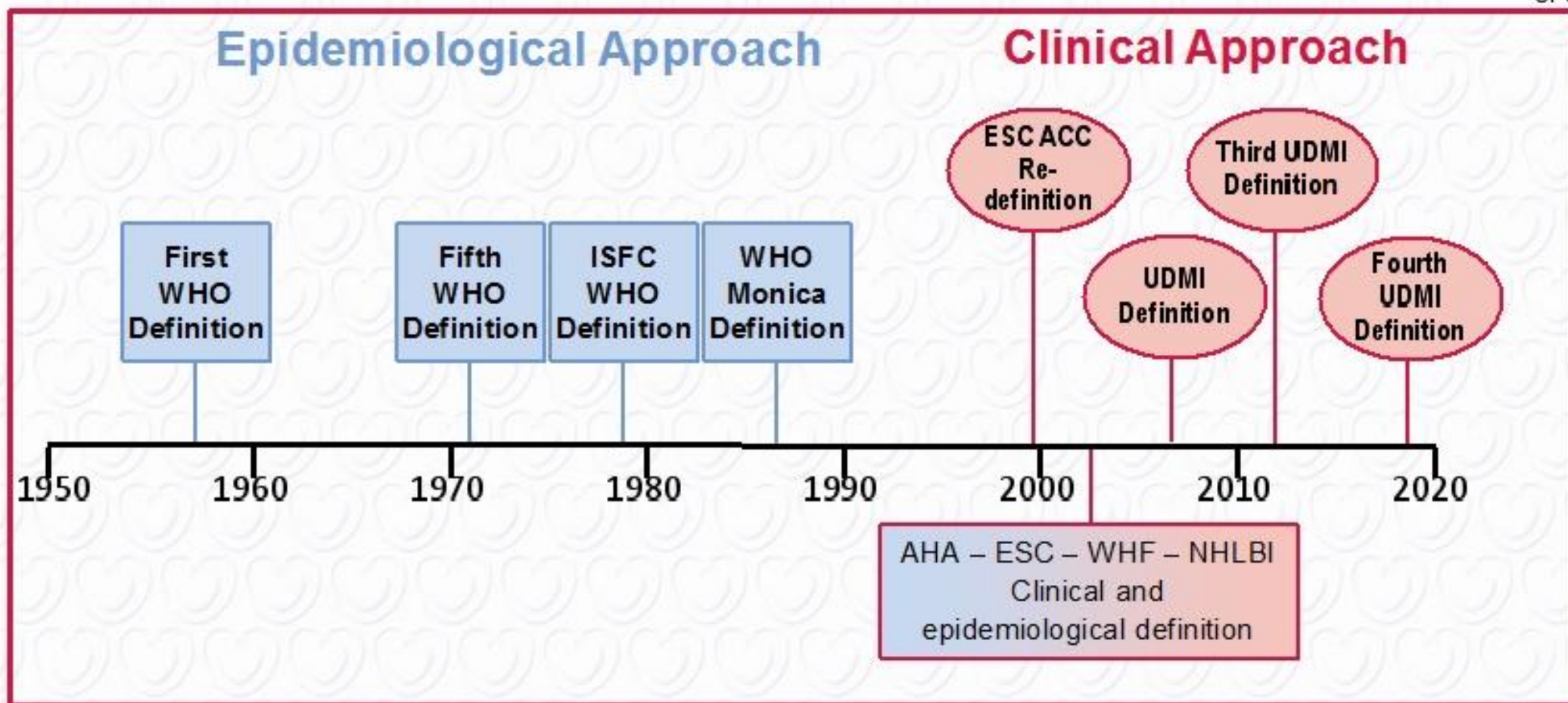


Fourth Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction (2018)

Kristian Thygesen* (Denmark), Joseph S. Alpert* (USA), Allan S. Jaffe (USA), Bernard R. Chaitman (USA), Jeroen J. Bax (The Netherlands), David A. Morrow (USA), and Harvey D. White* (New Zealand): *the Executive Group on behalf of the Joint ESC/ACC/AHA/WHF Task Force for the Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction.*

***Other contributors to the Task Force Document:* Hans Mickley (Denmark), Filippo Crea (Italy), Frans Van de Werf (Belgium), Chiara Bucciarelli-Ducci (UK), Hugo A. Katus (Germany), Fausto Pinto (Portugal), Elliott M. Antman (USA), Christian W. Hamm (Germany), Raffaele De Caterina (Italy), James Januzzi (USA), Fred S. Apple (USA), Maria Angeles Alonso Garcia (Spain), Richard Underwood (UK), John Canty (USA), Alexander Lyon (UK), P. J. Devereaux (Canada), Jose Luis Zamorano (Spain), Bertil Lindahl (Sweden), William Weintraub (USA), L. Kristin Newby (USA), Renu Virmani (USA), Pascal Vranckx (Belgium), Don Cutlip (USA), Raymond Gibbons (USA), Sidney C. Smith (USA), Dan Atar (Norway), Russell W. Luepker (USA), Rose Mary Robertson (USA), Robert Bonow (USA), P. Gabriel Steg (France), Patrick O’Gara (USA), Keith A. Fox (UK), Veronica Dean (France). * Chairpersons**

History of Documents on the Definition of Myocardial Infarction



ACC = American College of Cardiology; AHA = American Heart Association; ESC = European Society of Cardiology; ISFC = International Society and Federation of Cardiology; NHLBI = National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; WHF = World Heart Foundation; WHO = World Health Organization; UDMI = Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction

Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction

Criteria for Clinical Myocardial Infarction

Clinical definition of myocardial infarction denotes presence of acute myocardial injury detected by abnormal cardiac biomarkers in the setting of evidence of acute myocardial ischaemia.

Universal Definition of Myocardial Injury

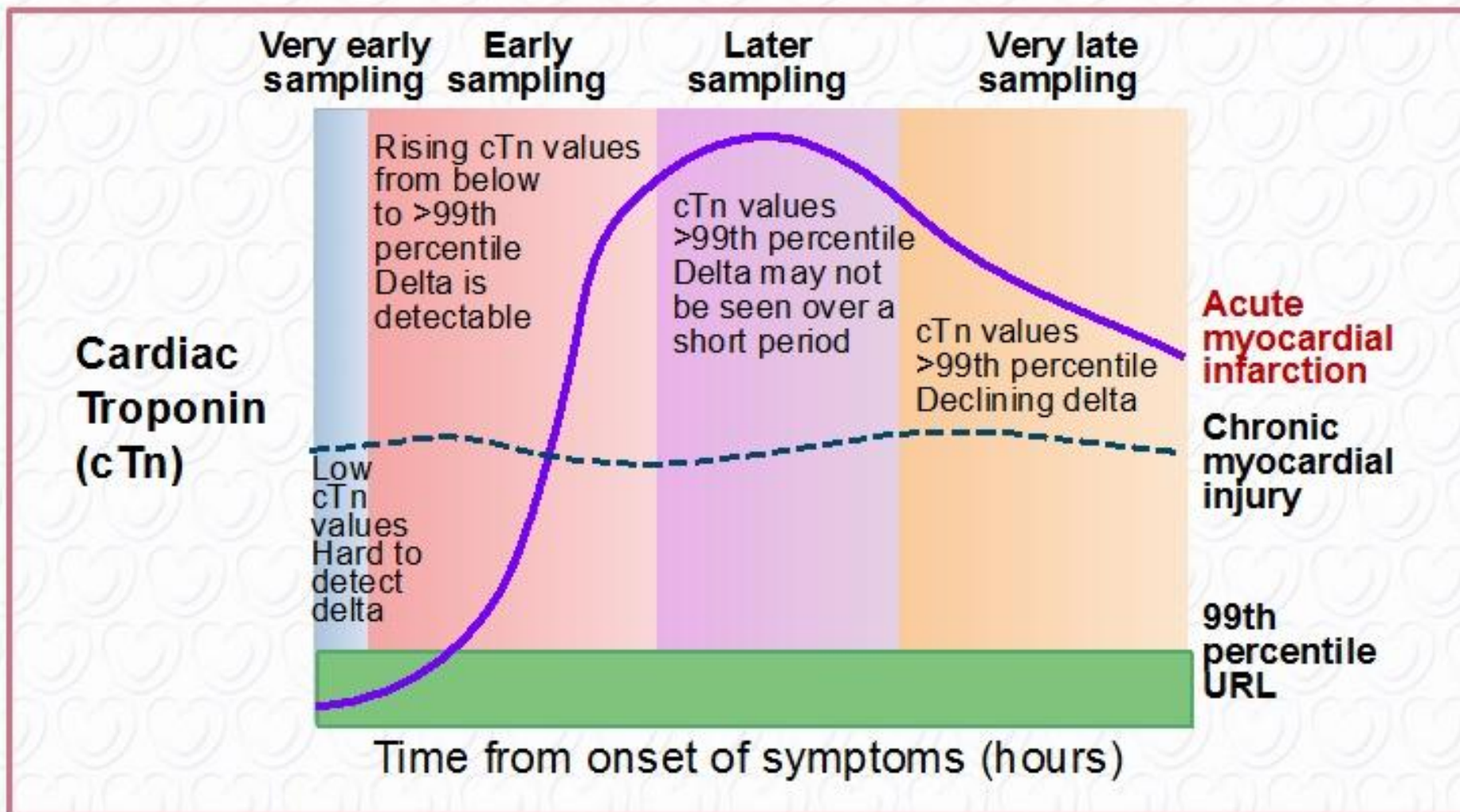
Criteria for Myocardial Injury

Detection of elevated cardiac troponin (cTn) values above the 99th percentile upper reference limit (URL) is defined as myocardial injury. The injury is considered acute if there is a rise and/or fall of cTn values

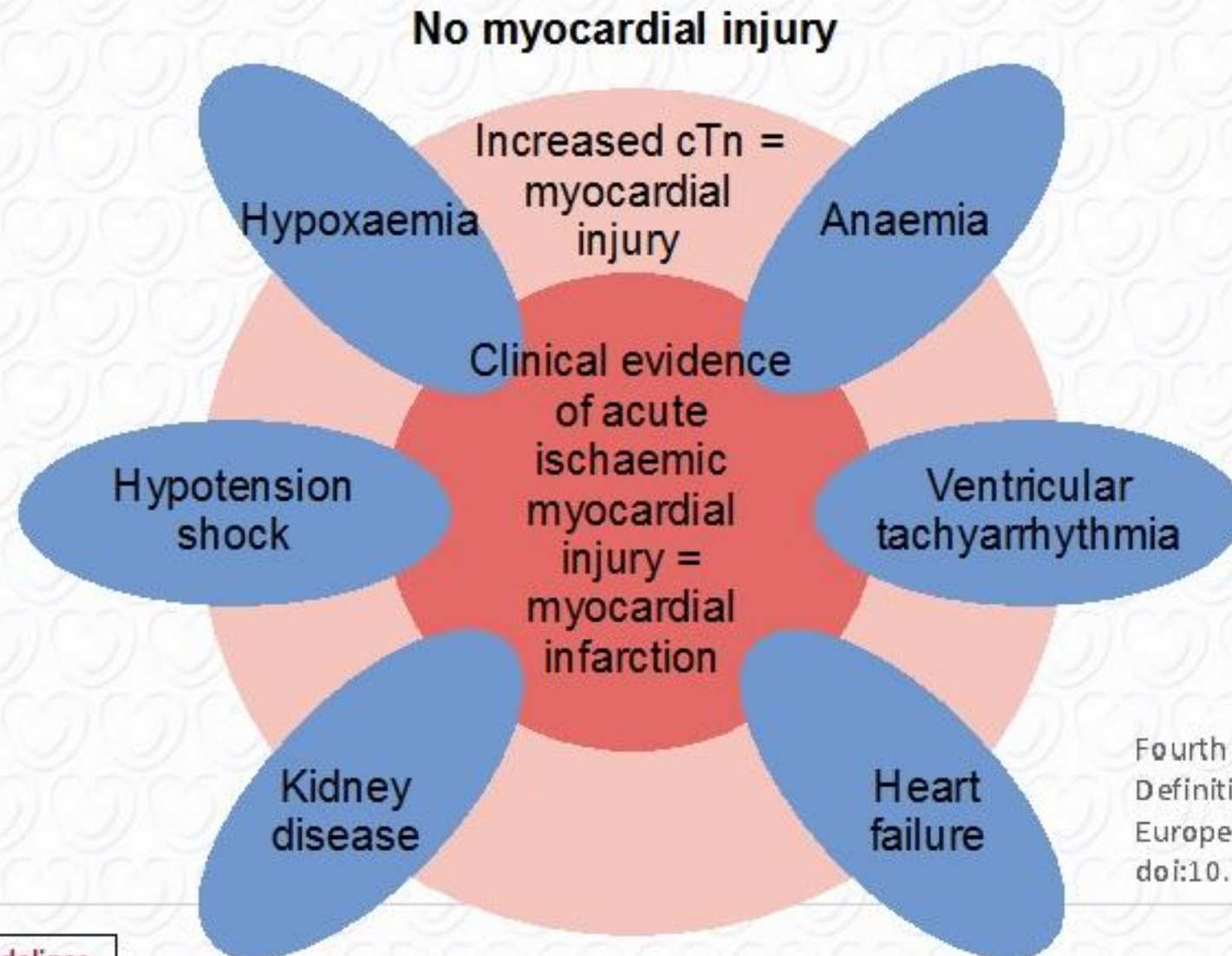
Criteria for Cardiac Procedural Myocardial Injury

Cardiac procedural related myocardial injury is defined by elevation of cTn values (>99th percentile URL) in patients with normal baseline value(s) or a rise of cTn values >20% of the baseline value when it is >99th percentile URL but is stable or falling

Conceptual Illustration of Troponin Kinetics after Acute Myocardial Injury and Infarction



Spectrum of Myocardial Injury, ranging from no Injury to Myocardial Infarction



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European Heart Journal 2019; 40: 237-269 -
doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehy462

Reasons for Elevation of Cardiac Troponin Values because of Myocardial Injury (1)

Myocardial injury related to acute myocardial ischaemia

Atherosclerotic plaque disruption with thrombosis.

Myocardial injury related to acute myocardial ischaemia because of oxygen supply/demand imbalance

Reduced myocardial perfusion, e.g.

- Coronary artery spasm, microvascular dysfunction
- Coronary embolism
- Coronary artery dissection
- Sustained bradyarrhythmia
- Hypotension or shock
- Respiratory failure
- Severe anaemia

Increased myocardial oxygen demand, e.g.

- Sustained tachyarrhythmia
- Severe hypertension with or without left ventricular hypertrophy

Reasons for Elevation of Cardiac Troponin Values because of Myocardial Injury (2)

Other causes of myocardial injury

Cardiac conditions, e.g.

- Heart failure
- Myocarditis
- Cardiomyopathy (any Type)
- Takotsubo syndrome
- Coronary revascularization procedure
- Cardiac procedure other than revascularization
- Catheter ablation
- Defibrillator shocks
- Cardiac contusion

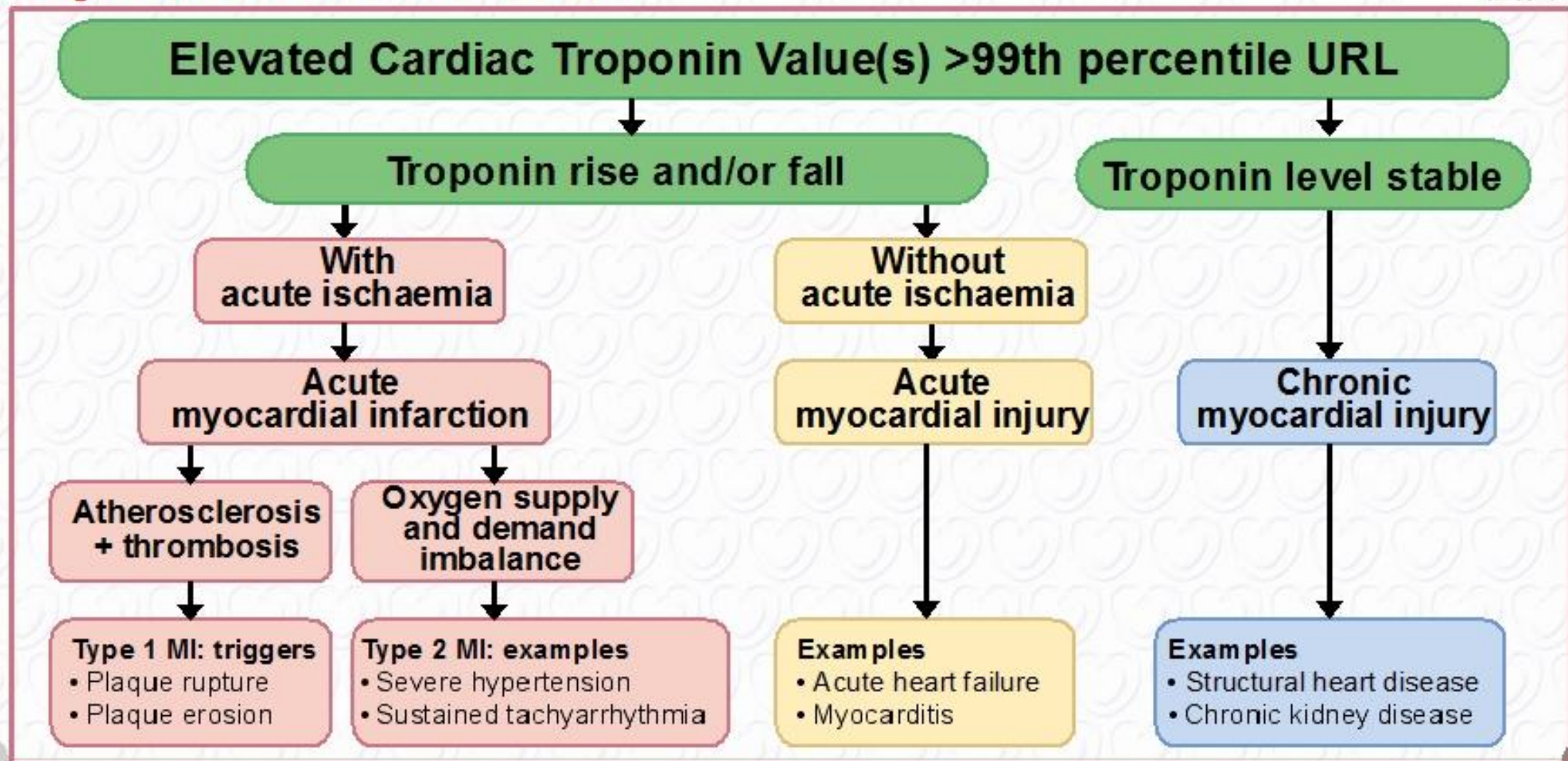
Reasons for Elevation of Cardiac Troponin Values because of Myocardial Injury (3)

Other causes of myocardial injury

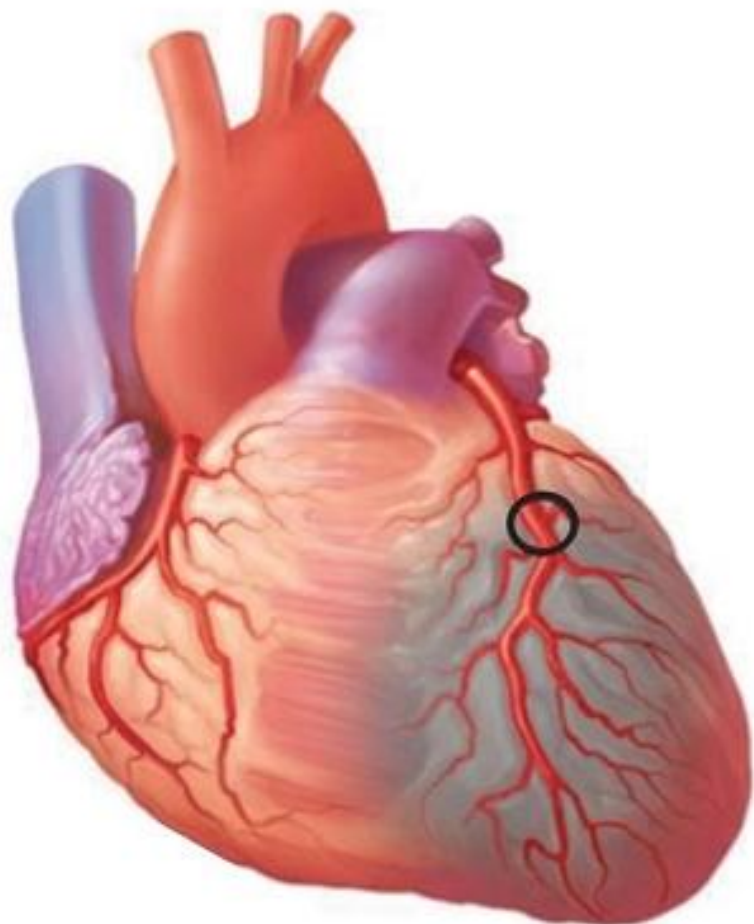
Systemic conditions, e.g.

- Sepsis, infectious disease
- Chronic kidney disease
- Stroke, subarachnoid haemorrhage
- Pulmonary embolism, pulmonary hypertension
- Infiltrative diseases, e.g. amyloidosis, sarcoidosis
- Chemotherapeutic agents
- Critical ill patients
- Strenuous exercise

Model for interpreting Myocardial Injury and Myocardial Infarction



Myocardial Infarction Type 1



Plaque rupture/erosion with
occlusive thrombus



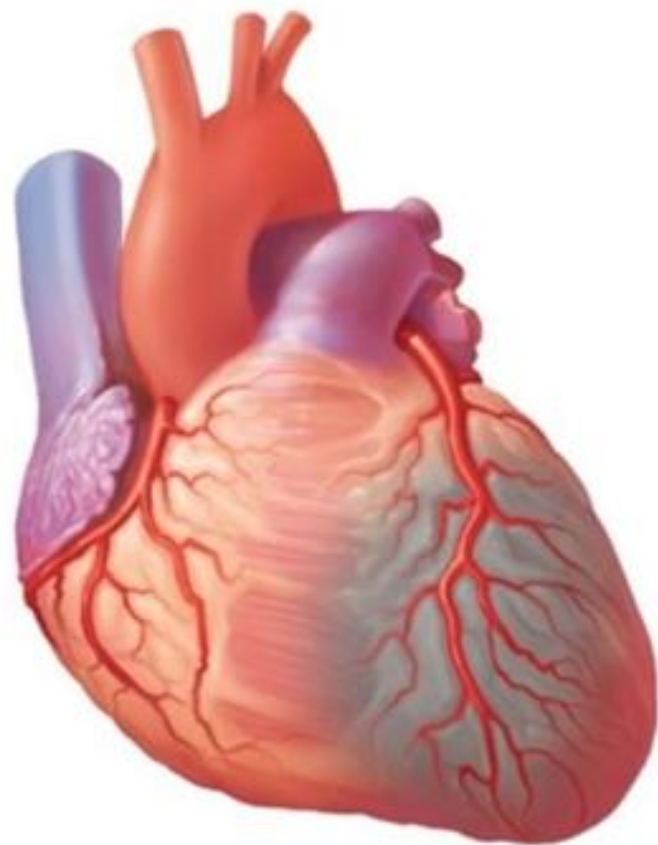
Plaque rupture/erosion with
non-occlusive thrombus

Criteria for Type 1 Myocardial Infarction

Detection of a rise and/or fall of cTn with at least one value above the 99th percentile URL and with at least one of the following:

- **Symptoms of acute myocardial ischaemia;**
- **New ischaemic ECG changes;**
- **Development of pathological Q waves;**
- **Imaging evidence of new loss of viable myocardium or new regional wall motion abnormality in a pattern consistent with an ischaemic aetiology;**
- **Identification of a coronary thrombus by angiography including intracoronary imaging or by autopsy.**

Myocardial Infarction Type 2



Atherosclerosis and oxygen supply/demand imbalance



Vasospasm or coronary microvascular dysfunction



Non-atherosclerotic coronary dissection



Oxygen supply/demand imbalance alone

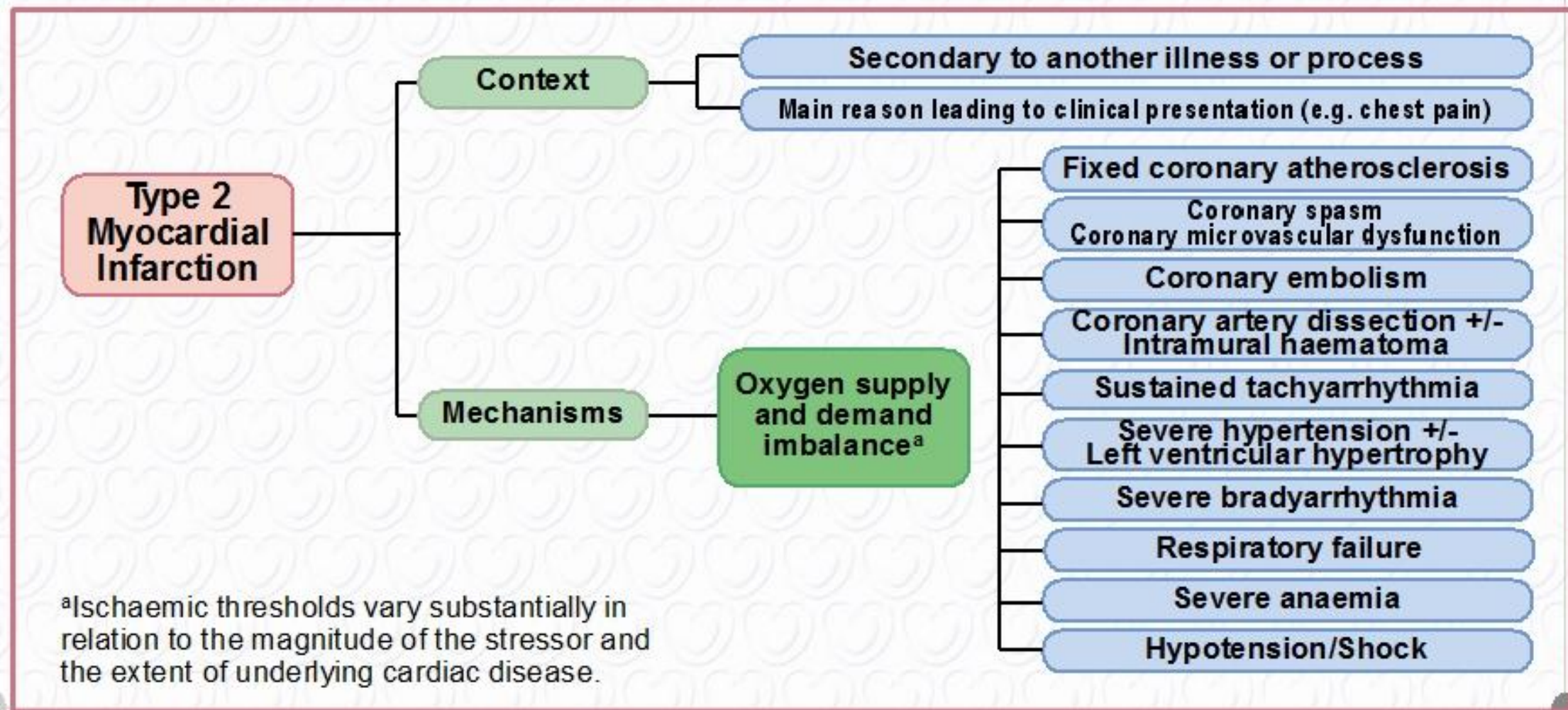


Criteria for Type 2 Myocardial Infarction

Detection of a rise and/or fall of cTn with at least one value above the 99th percentile URL and evidence of an imbalance between myocardial oxygen supply and demand unrelated to coronary athero-thrombosis, requiring at least one of the following:

- **Symptoms of acute myocardial ischaemia;**
- **New ischaemic ECG changes;**
- **Development of pathological Q waves;**
- **Imaging evidence of new loss of viable myocardium or new regional wall motion abnormality in a pattern consistent with an ischaemic aetiology.**

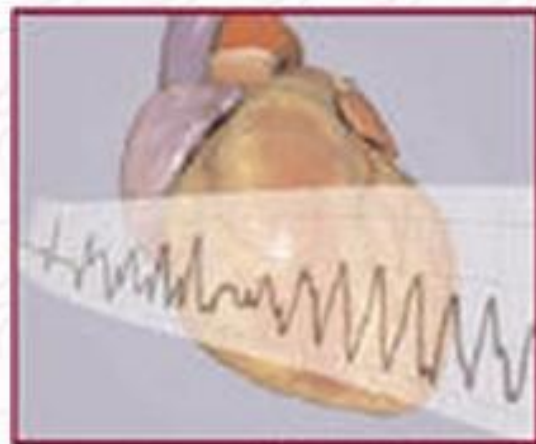
Framework for Type 2 MI considering Context and Mechanisms attributable to Acute Myocardial Ischaemia



^aIschaemic thresholds vary substantially in relation to the magnitude of the stressor and the extent of underlying cardiac disease.

Criteria for Type 3 Myocardial Infarction

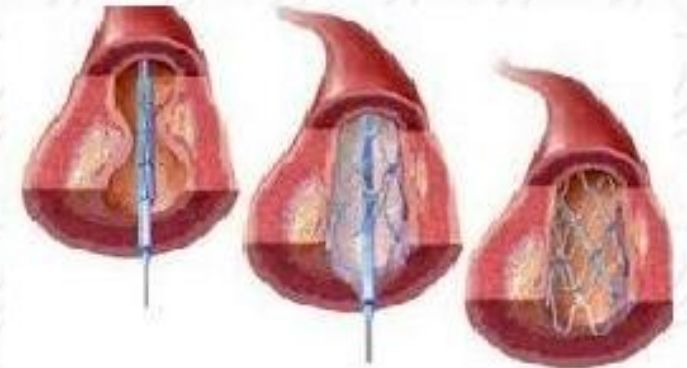
Patients who suffer cardiac death, with symptoms suggestive of myocardial ischaemia accompanied by presumed new ischaemic ECG changes or ventricular fibrillation, but die before blood samples for biomarkers can be obtained, or before increases in cardiac biomarkers can be identified or myocardial infarction detected by autopsy examination.



Myocardial Infarction Type 4a

PCI-related MI ≤ 48 h after the index procedure is defined by elevation of cardiac troponin values >5 times 99th percentile URL. In addition, either

- New ischaemic ECG changes or
- Imaging demonstration of new loss of viable myocardium or new regional wall motion abnormality consistent with an ischaemic aetiology
- Angiographic findings consistent with a procedural flow-limiting complication such as coronary dissection, occlusion of a major epicardial artery or a side-branch occlusion/ thrombus, disruption of collateral flow or distal embolization



Isolated development of new Q waves meets the criteria if cTn values are elevated and rising but less than the pre-specified thresholds for PCI

If cTn values are not $>5 \times 99^{\text{th}}$ percentile URL, then the term myocardial injury should be used

Myocardial Infarction Type 4b

Myocardial infarction related to stent-thrombosis is detected by coronary angiography or autopsy in the setting of myocardial ischaemia and with a rise and/or fall of cardiac troponin values with at least one value >99th percentile URL.

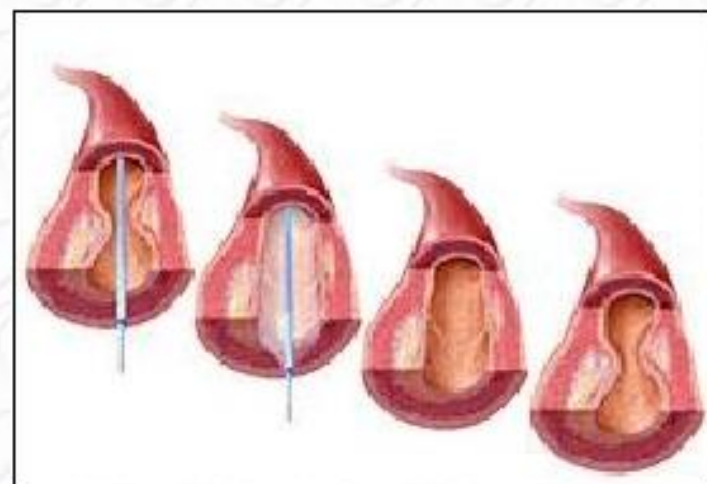
The following temporal categories are suggested:

- Acute, 0–24 h
- Subacute, > 24 h to 30 days
- Late, > 30 days to 1 year
- Very late > 1 year



Myocardial Infarction Type 4c

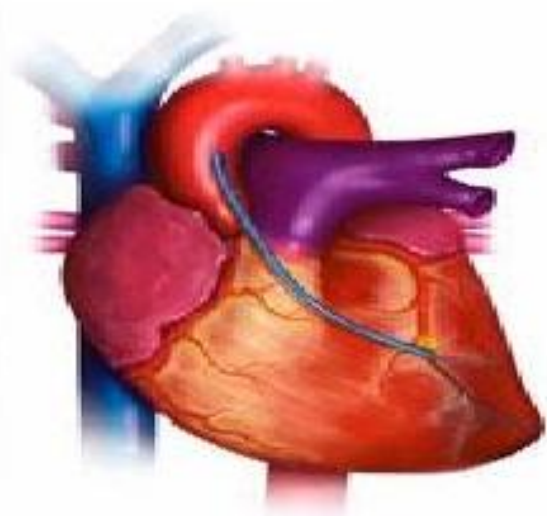
Myocardial infarction related to in-stent restenosis, or restenosis following balloon angioplasty in the infarct territory is detected by coronary angiography in the setting of myocardial ischaemia and with a rise and/or fall of cardiac troponin values with at least one value >99th percentile URL



Myocardial Infarction Type 5

CABG-related MI ≤ 48 h after the index procedure is defined by elevation of cardiac troponin values >10 times 99th percentile URL. In addition, either

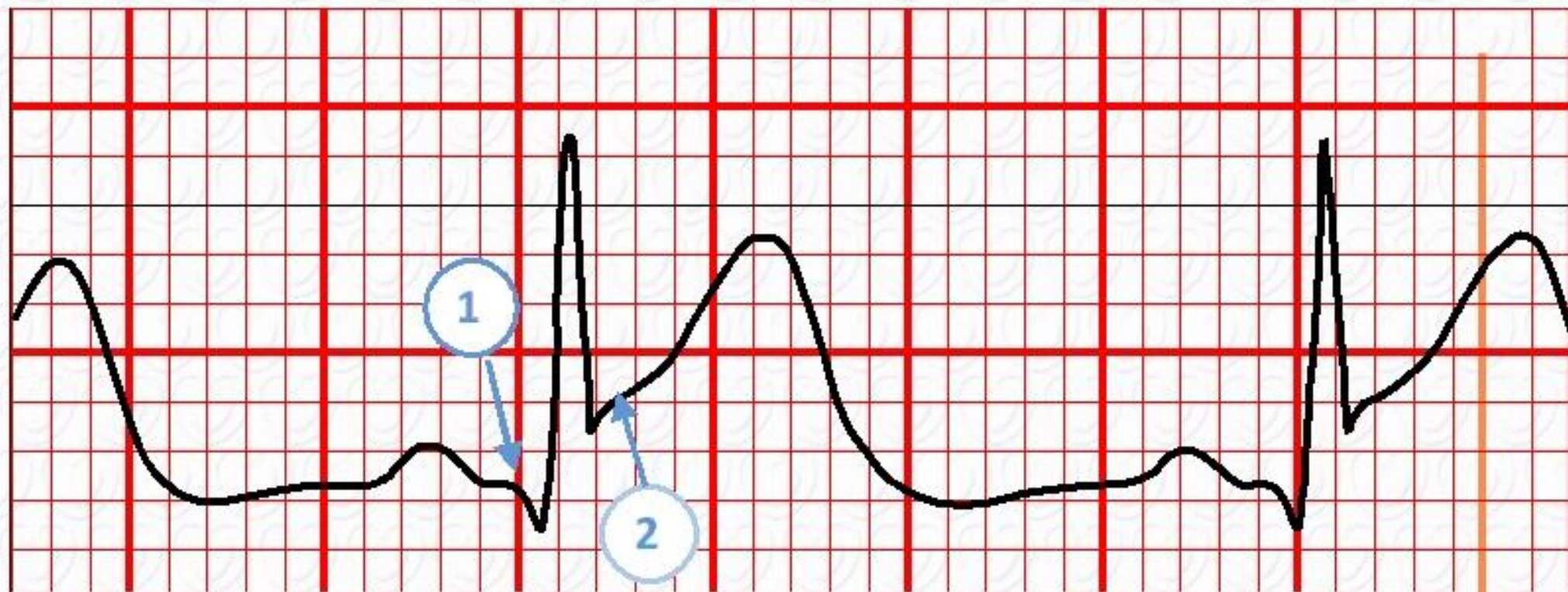
- **new pathological Q waves or**
- **angiographic documented new graft or new native coronary artery occlusion, or**
- **imaging evidence of new loss of viable myocardium or new regional wall motion abnormality and in a pattern consistent with an ischaemic aetiology.**



Isolated development of new Q waves meets the criteria if cTn values are elevated and rising but less than the pre-specified thresholds for CABG

If cTn values are not $>10 \times$ 99th percentile URL, then the term myocardial injury should be used

How to assess ST-segment elevation



Arrow 1 indicates the onset of the Q wave. Arrow 2 Indicates the onset of the ST-segment or J-point. The difference between points 1 and 2 denotes the magnitude of the ST-segment elevation

Electrocardiographic Changes* suggestive of Acute Myocardial Ischaemia

ST-elevation

New ST-elevation at the J-point in two contiguous leads with the cut points: ≥ 1 mm in all leads other than leads V_2-V_3 where the following cut points apply: ≥ 2 mm in men ≥ 40 years; ≥ 2.5 mm in men < 40 years, or ≥ 1.5 mm in women regardless of age.

ST-depression and T wave changes

New horizontal or down-sloping ST-depression ≥ 0.5 mm in two contiguous leads and/or T inversion > 1 mm in two contiguous leads with prominent R wave or R/S ratio > 1 .

*in absence of left ventricular hypertrophy and bundle branch block

Electrocardiographic Changes* associated with Prior Myocardial Infarction

Any Q wave in leads V_2-V_3 >0.02 s or QS complex in leads V_2-V_3

Q-wave ≥ 0.03 s and ≥ 1 mm deep or QS complex in leads I, II, aVL, aVF or V_4-V_6 in any two leads of a contiguous lead grouping (I, aVL; V_1-V_6 ; II, III, aVF)

R wave >0.04 s in V_1-V_2 and $R/S >1$ with a concordant positive T wave in absence of conduction defect

*in absence of left ventricular hypertrophy and bundle branch block

Prior or Silent/Unrecognized Myocardial Infarction

Criteria for Prior or Silent/Unrecognized Myocardial Infarction

Any one of the following criteria meets the diagnosis for prior or silent/unrecognized MI:

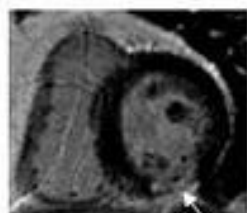
- Abnormal Q waves with or without symptoms in the absence of non-ischaemic causes.
- Imaging evidence of loss of viable myocardium in a pattern consistent with ischaemic aetiology.
- Patho-anatomical findings of a prior MI

Cardiac Magnetic Resonance Images

Gadolinium-based contrasts wash out from myocardium with increased extracellular space such as fibrosis, thus enhancing areas of scar (white arrows).

ISCHAEMIC

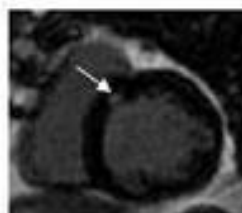
Transmural



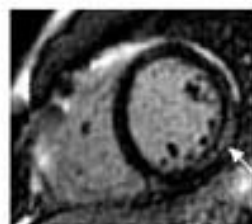
Subendocardial



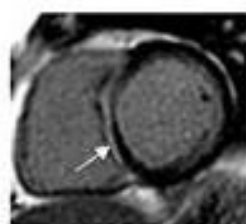
Focal Subendocardial



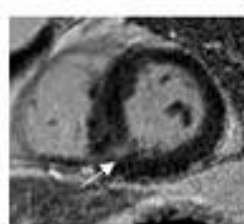
NON-ISCHAEMIC



Subepicardial



Mid-wall



Insertion points

Ten commandments for the Fourth Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction (1)

Myocardial Injury and Myocardial Infarction

- 1) Myocardial injury is defined by the presence of cardiac troponin values (cTn) above the 99th percentile of the upper reference limit (URL).
- 2) Myocardial injury may be acute (rise and/or fall of cTn values) as in acute heart failure or chronic ($\leq 20\%$ variation of cTn values) as in chronic kidney disease.
- 3) Myocardial injury may occur in a variety of situations including after coronary procedural intervention and/or with cardiovascular and non-cardiovascular illnesses.
- 4) Occurrence of acute myocardial injury in the setting of acute myocardial ischaemia defines acute myocardial infarction.

Ten commandments for the Fourth Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction (2)

Myocardial Infarction – Spontaneous Types

- 5) Myocardial infarction type 1 is acute myocardial injury related to acute atherothrombotic coronary artery disease. It is usually precipitated by atherosclerotic plaque disruption that reduces blood supply to the myocardium.
- 6) Myocardial infarction type 2 is acute myocardial injury related to an imbalance between myocardial oxygen supply and demand secondary to stressors unrelated to acute coronary athero-thrombosis.
- 7) Myocardial infarction type 3 is related to patients who suffer cardiac death, with symptoms suggestive of acute myocardial ischaemia accompanied by new ischaemic ECG changes and die before biomarker values could be obtained.

Ten commandments for the Fourth Universal Definition of Myocardial Infarction (3)

Myocardial Infarction – Procedural Types

- 8) Myocardial infarction type 4a denotes PCI-related increases of cTn values >5 times the 99th percentile URL from a normal or if elevated, stable pre-procedural baseline. New myocardial ischaemia evidenced by ECG or imaging, or complications leading to reduced coronary blood flow are required.
- 9) Myocardial infarction type 4b is acute myocardial ischaemic injury related to stent thrombosis, and myocardial infarction type 4c is acute myocardial ischaemic injury associated with restenosis.
- 10) Myocardial infarction type 5 is CABG-related increases of cTn values >10 times 99th percentile URL from a normal or if elevated, stable pre-procedural baseline. New myocardial ischaemia or new loss of myocardial viability is required.