

**Harvard Medical School Department of
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Cardiology Rounds
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Acute Stress Cardiomyopathy and Reversible Left Ventricular Dysfunction

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This issue of *Cardiology Rounds* will help the reader to:

- review clinical situations in which left ventricular (LV) systolic dysfunction may reverse
- become acquainted with the syndrome of acute, stress-related cardiomyopathy
- understand the possible pathogenesis of the syndrome of stress cardiomyopathy

Questions: Only one response is correct

1. Which of the following conditions is not associated with afterload-related LV systolic dysfunction?
 - a. severe aortic stenosis
 - b. acute, severe mitral regurgitation
 - c. severe hypertension
 - d. chronic mitral regurgitation
 - e. chronic, severe aortic regurgitation
2. Stress cardiomyopathy is always confined to the apex?
True False
3. Which of the following clinical features suggest that acute chest symptoms in a 62-year-old woman with precordial ST elevations and an apical wall motion abnormality by echo are due to an acute left anterior descending (LAD) territory myocardial infarction (MI) (rather than the apical version of stress cardiomyopathy)?
 - a. wall motion abnormalities by echo appear to span a larger perfusion territory than one coronary artery .
 - b. the absence of hyperenhancement by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) with gadolinium on day 2
 - c. a rise in the level of troponin I
 - d. creatine phosphokinase (CPK) >1800 IU
4. Transient apical ballooning is seen only in Japan.
True False

5. Which of the following criteria proposed by Bybee and co-workers is not required for the diagnosis of transient apical ballooning?
- a. transient apical or midventricular akinesis/dyskinesis
 - b. absence of epicardial coronary disease
 - c. ST elevations
 - d. absence of other conditions
(eg, pheochromocytoma, intracranial hemorrhage, myocarditis)
 - e. intracavitary flow acceleration by Doppler

To receive AMA category 1 credit, you must correctly answer 60% of the test questions.

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Please keep a copy of your test before submission. A certificate will be sent upon successful completion of the test, along with the answer key, after the deadline date, as indicated.

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