



# 8/30/23 Morning Report with @CPSolvers



"One life, so many dreams" Case Presenter: Ayesha Ghoto (@AyeshaGhoto) Case Discussants: Jack Penner (@) and Sharmin Shekarchian (@Sharminzi)

**CC:** 48 yo female with a syncopal episode

**HPI:** she had a syncopal episode when she was working at home and stayed unconscious for some time. She has had exertional dyspnea for the past three months. Denied jerking or tongue biting.

**PMH:** HTN

**Fam Hx:** HTN, DM

**Meds:** Amlodipine

**Soc Hx:** Non-smoker, drinks alcohol occasionally

**Health-Related Behaviors:** none

**Allergies:** none

**Vitals:** HR: 75 BP: 110/70 RR: SpO2 99% in RA

**Exam:**

**Gen:** awake and alert, moist mucous membranes

**HEENT:**

**CV:** normal S1 and S2; 2/6 diastolic murmur, no JVD

**Pulm:** clear to auscultation

**Abd:**

**Neuro:** unremarkable

**Extremities/skin:** no edema

**Notable Labs & Imaging:**

**Hematology:**

WBC: 10 Hgb: 11 Plt: 450

**Chemistry:**

Na: 143 K: 3.9 Cl: 89 BUN: 18 Cr:1.06 glucose:170 Ca:9.2 Mag: 2.2  
AST: nl ALT: nlAlk-P: 1.04 Albumin: 4.0  
GFR 28  
Troponin 23 (normal)  
proBNP: 250

**Imaging:**

EKG: normal sinus rhythm, right axis deviation

CXR: unremarkable

Echocardiogram: LA mass measuring 4x2 cm attached to the interventricular septum with movement along the mitral valve.

**Dx:** Cardiac myxoma obstructing blood flow through mitral valve.

**Problem Representation:** 48 yo female presenting with syncope, exertional dyspnea, and a 2/6 diastolic murmur on physical exam. Echo showed LA mass obstructing blood flow through MV.

**Teaching Points (Mark):**

**CC: Syncope episode**

- Before you enter the world of syncope, consider the ddx of transient loss of consciousness
- Is this syncope or a syncope mimic?
- 4S's: Syncope, stroke/TIA, sugar, seizure
- All have distinct signatures (prodrome with vagal, positional with orthostasis, etc) → history is key!
- Syncope: reflex, orthostasis, cardiac (structural vs arrhythmia)
- Also consider autonomic dysfunction 2/2 medications (Alpha blockers, anti-hypertensives)/DM/PD, another consideration is low volume state.
- Each bucket of syncope has distinct features on history
- Dyspnea increases the likelihood of cardiac syncope
- Features of cardiac syncope: host vs syndrome

**Host:**

1. Hx of CAD/CHF
2. Hx of conduction abnormalities
3. Family hx of sudden cardiac death

**Syndrome:**

4. Exertional dyspnea
5. Supine syncope
6. Palpitations

- Now the exam...
- Normal heart rate does not rule out arrhythmia, many are intermittent, therefore place patient on telemetry and get an ECG
- Knowing a patient's baseline BP is important - could be relative hypotension/hypertension w/ a "normal BP"
- Diastolic murmurs: always pathologic, stenosis (tricuspid or mitral) or regurg (pulmonic or aortic)
- Now the labs...
- BNP: original studies were used in ED to determine if patient's dyspnea is from HF → so heart is on the hook now w/ elevated BNP
- PE is a underappreciated cause of syncope in patients admitted for syncope (17% in 1 study!)
- TTE showed a mass near the mitral valve concerning for atrial myxoma
- Atrial myxoma causing physiology similar to MS