TITLE: Treatment of Gastrointestinal Symptoms in the Emergency Department: Clinical Evidence and Guidelines

DATE: 04 October 2012

RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

1. What is the clinical evidence regarding the risk of treating gastrointestinal symptoms and not screening for cardiac conditions in adult patients presenting to the emergency department with gastrointestinal distress?

2. What are the evidence-based guidelines for the diagnosis of cardiac conditions in adult patients presenting to the emergency department with gastrointestinal symptoms?

KEY MESSAGE

No relevant literature was identified regarding the risk of treating gastrointestinal symptoms and not screening for cardiac conditions or the evidence-based guidelines for the diagnosis of cardiac conditions in patients presenting to the emergency department with GI symptoms.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, The Cochrane Library (2012, Issue 9), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. The search was limited to English language documents published between Jan 1, 2007 and Sept 25, 2012. Internet links were provided, where available.

The summary of findings was prepared from the abstracts of the relevant information. Please note that data contained in abstracts may not always be an accurate reflection of the data contained within the full article.
RESULTS

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, and evidence-based guidelines.

No relevant health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, or evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding the risk of treating gastrointestinal symptoms and not screening for cardiac conditions or the evidence-based guidelines for the diagnosis of cardiac conditions in adult patients presenting to the emergency department with gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms. Additional references of potential interest are provided in the appendix.

OVERALL SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

No relevant literature was found regarding either the clinical evidence regarding the risk of treating gastrointestinal symptoms and not screening for cardiac conditions or the evidence-based guidelines for the diagnosis of cardiac conditions in adult patients presenting to the emergency department with GI symptoms, therefore no summary can be provided.
REFERENCES SUMMARIZED

Health Technology Assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses
No literature identified.

Randomized Controlled Trials
No literature identified.

Non-Randomized Studies
No literature identified.

Guidelines and Recommendations
No literature identified.

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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Case Studies


Handbooks and Guidelines – rigour unknown or not systematic


Review Articles

   PubMed: PM20561860

Additional References

    PubMed: PM22458748

    PubMed: PM20854746

    PubMed: PM19033022

    PubMed: PM17448951