

Case 2

Question 1 (written by Joe Edwards)

A 55-year old patient presents for an appointment at a GP surgery. Dr Green asks the patient to explain why he has come to see her today. The patient says *"Well, it's nothing awful, but over the last couple of months I've been having this nagging pain in my chest every time I go out in the cold. I feel like my head is spinning when it comes on, but it does go away when I stay really still for a few minutes or warm up a bit. A few times now I have also felt my heart beating harder than normal in my chest – sometimes at the same time as the pain. You know I don't like to bother you – I don't like going out much at all, to be honest, but my wife forced to me come and to be fair, I was getting really worried and panicked last night, just before I booked the appointment, thinking about what I would do if this was something serious."*

- a) State the three cardinal symptoms of cardiac disease experienced by this patient. [3]

- b) State two other cardinal symptoms of cardiac disease **not** experienced by this patient. [2]

- c) Which two of Zola's triggers to consult apply to this patient? [2]

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- d) State and justify two possible differential diagnoses for this patient. [4]

Dr Green decides to perform a limb lead II ECG.

- e) Describe how each electrode should be placed for this ECG. [2]

A section of the ECG is shown in **FIGURE 5**.

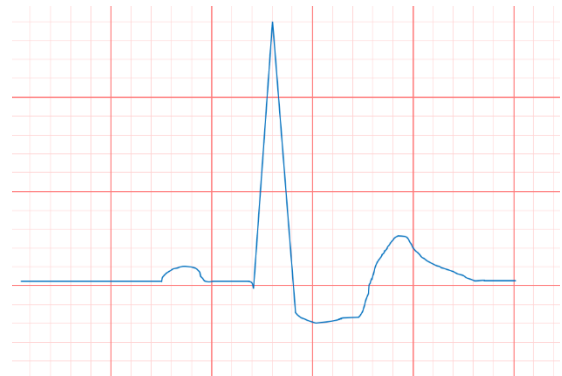


FIGURE 5

- f) Describe one abnormality seen in this ECG and state the pathological condition with which this change is associated. [2]

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Mitral regurgitation is a type of valvular disease which may cause heart failure.

- a) Describe the specific imaging technique most commonly used to support a diagnosis of mitral valve regurgitation. [2]

- b) State two clinical consequences of mitral regurgitation other than heart failure. [2]
