CHEST PAIN OBSERVATION

TRANSFER CRITERIA
Clinical suspicion that risk of MI is low (< 6%) (Goldman algorithm)
Chest discomfort is potentially cardiac ischemia (Based on risk factors / discomfort)
Normal EKG, or concurrence with cardiologist / PMD
Acceptable vital signs
No history of known coronary artery disease, or concurrence with cardiologist / PMD

EXCLUSION CRITERIA
Clinical suspicion that risk of MI is over 6% (Goldman algorithm)
EKG which shows evidence of MI or clearly acute injury/ischemia pattern
Unstable vital signs
Clear Unstable Angina by history (i.e. known CAD, Sx like prior angina/MI)
Chest pain is clearly not cardiac ischemia
Private attending chooses IP admission

INTERVENTIONS
Initial EC intervention:
• IV (heplock?), O2, TMS monitor hook up, initial EKG, CXR, NO caffeine.
• If not contraindicated, give Aspirin 325mg PO, (consider Maalox 30cc PO).
• Appropriate nitrates (physician discretion) - NTG SL prn, NTP, or Nitrobid.
• Send initial biomarker(s) - CPK-MB, possibly Myoglobin or Troponin T.
• ECP speaks with PMD, or CPC cardiologist, choose stress test option.

EC Observation Unit interventions:
• Call lab to add myoglobin to initial blood drawn in EC
• Continue IV (heplock ?), O2, TMS (ST segment) Monitor, Nitrates, No caffeine.
• Send patient to obtain initial resting scan if ordered.
• Perform EKG based on clinical suspicion or ST monitor alert. Show ECP / PA stat.
• Protocol = Time 0 and 4 hour ECG, CK-MB, and Myoglobin
• If all tests are negative => appropriate stress test
  If abnormal CK-MB, or ECG => admit
  IF (a) No stress test planned, (b) ONLY myoglobin is elevated,
  (c) 0 to 4hr CK-MB /Myoglobin doubled, or (d) 4 hour tests are missed:
  Time 8 hour ECG, CK-MB, TnT
  If all tests are negative => appropriate stress test
  If abnormal EC-MB, TnT, or ECG => admit

DISPOSITION
Home - Acceptable VS
Normal biomarkers
Unremarkable Stress Test
No significant EKG changes

Hospital - Unstable VS
Positive biomarker
EKG changes
Significant Stress Test abnormality
ECP / PMD clinical discretion