



## VBEMS Pre-Hospital 12-lead Indications



12-leads must be obtained within 10 minutes of initial patient contact for the following BLS and ALS patients:

- **Patients  $\geq$  35 years old experiencing:**
  - Chest pain or discomfort
  - Chest pressure or tightness (including non-muscular upper back pain)
  - “Heartburn” or epigastric pain
  - Complaints of “heart racing” (HR >150 or irregular and >120)
  - Complaints of “heart too slow” (HR <50 and symptomatic)
  - Syncope/Near Syncope
  - Unexplained weakness/lethargy
  - New onset stroke symptoms
  - Difficulty breathing (such as CHF or unknown causes)
- **Patients (regardless of age) with any of the above symptoms and history of:**
  - ROSC (sustained)
  - Prior cardiac disease
  - A family history of early heart disease
  - Diabetes
  - Severe obesity
  - Recent cocaine use
  - Suspected overdose
  - Electrical injury

If the provider is uncertain or has any doubt about whether or not a 12-lead is warranted.

### Remember:

- ✓ **If the 12-lead indicates STEMI, it should be transmitted to the receiving facility within 5 minutes and immediately followed by a radio call. If transmission is not possible, please call the facility within 5 minutes.**
- ✓ All other 12-leads should be transmitted to the receiving facility within 10 minutes. If multiple 12-leads are obtained, transmit the one(s) that most influenced your treatment decision(s).
- ✓ Women, diabetic and elderly patients are more likely to present with atypical symptoms such as generalized weakness, altered mental status or syncope as their only sign of acute heart attack.
- ✓ The 12-lead monitor should be carried in to the patient’s house upon Fire/EMS arrival and a 12-lead should be obtained within 10 minutes for all indicated cases. The 12-lead should be obtained prior to any other ACS/AMI treatments per TEMS protocols.
- ✓ If a 12-lead is obtained or the patient is placed on the EKG monitor, the monitor data must be uploaded to the patient report.
- ✓ STEMI Goals: Obtain 12-lead within 10 minutes, Transmit 12-lead and call within 5 minutes, Onscene time limited to 15 minutes.
- ✓ BLS and ALS providers are expected to follow the guidelines.