Aortic dissection

NCQS

Aortic dissection can cause all except :

Tamponade

Pleural effusion

Mitral valve regurgitation

A 55-year-old man is admitted to the Emergency Department with 'tearing' chest pain radiating through to his back.
Examination reveals a pulse of 96 / min regular, blood pressure of 130 / 85 mmHg and oxygen saturations of 97% on room air.
A chest x -ray shows mediastinal widening.

A CT shows dissection of the ascending aorta. What is the most suitable initial management? Select one:

- a. IV sodium nitroprusside
- b. Oral verapamil
- c. Observe only
- d. IV labetalol
- e. Surgical repair
- A 22 year old male patient, with central chest pain, radiating to back, he is found to have murmur on exam. Also, he is 2m tall. Most likely diagnosis:
- a. MI
- b. Pericarditis
- c. Aortic dissection

Answer: C (tall Marfan syndrome. Plus, he is too young for an MI. Also, chest pain that radiates to back is characteristic of aorticdissection)

