

Case 1

52 y/o F presents conscious and alert and oriented x 4 in severe distress c/o diff breathing and dizziness p being stung by a bee. Respirations are stridorous, rapid, and shallow. Ø palpable radial pulse, ⊕ weak and rapid carotid pulse, skin is cool/pale/diaphoretic. Pt denies CP, syncope, N/V, weakness, abd or back pain.

Physical Exam Findings:

- HEENT
 - PEARL
 - No JVD
 - No tracheal deviation
- Chest
 - Lung sounds with inspiratory and expiratory wheezes bilaterally
 - Bee sting to left anterior chest, at level of 2nd intercostal space just lateral to the midclavicular line. Stinger intact.
 - Hives on anterior chest
- Abdomen
 - Soft, nontender
 - Hives noted to anterior abdomen
- Extremities
 - Sensory, motor, and circulation intact all extremities
 - Absent radial pulses
- Skin
 - Cool, pale, diaphoretic
 - Capillary refill delayed

Vital Signs

- HR = 90/min, regular, no radial pulse
- BP = 76/40mmHg
- RR = 36/min, shallow
- SpO₂ = 78% RA

PMH

- AMI x 1
- HTN
- History of hypersensitivity to bee stings.

Medications

- Atenolol
- Norvasc
- NTG prn
- ASA
- EpiPen

Allergies

- NKDA

Questions:

1. Identify and discuss the treatment of any life-threatening primary assessment findings.
2. Is this patient in shock? What category? What stage?
3. Identify if this an allergic reaction or anaphylaxis. Explain the differences between each, both in terms of pathophysiology and sign & symptoms.
4. Describe the physiologic mechanisms responsible for the patient's symptoms and clinical exam findings.
5. Identify any medications that may benefit this patient.
 - a. Describe the indications, contraindications, mechanism of action, dose, route, effects, side effects, and administration technique for any medication you would want to administer.
 - b. What specific effects will any medication have on the pathophysiology involved in this emergency?
6. Will the patient's PMH and medications help or hinder their ability to respond to the current problem?
7. List your management plan for this patient.
8. Describe exactly how each part of your management plan will benefit the patient.