The Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine

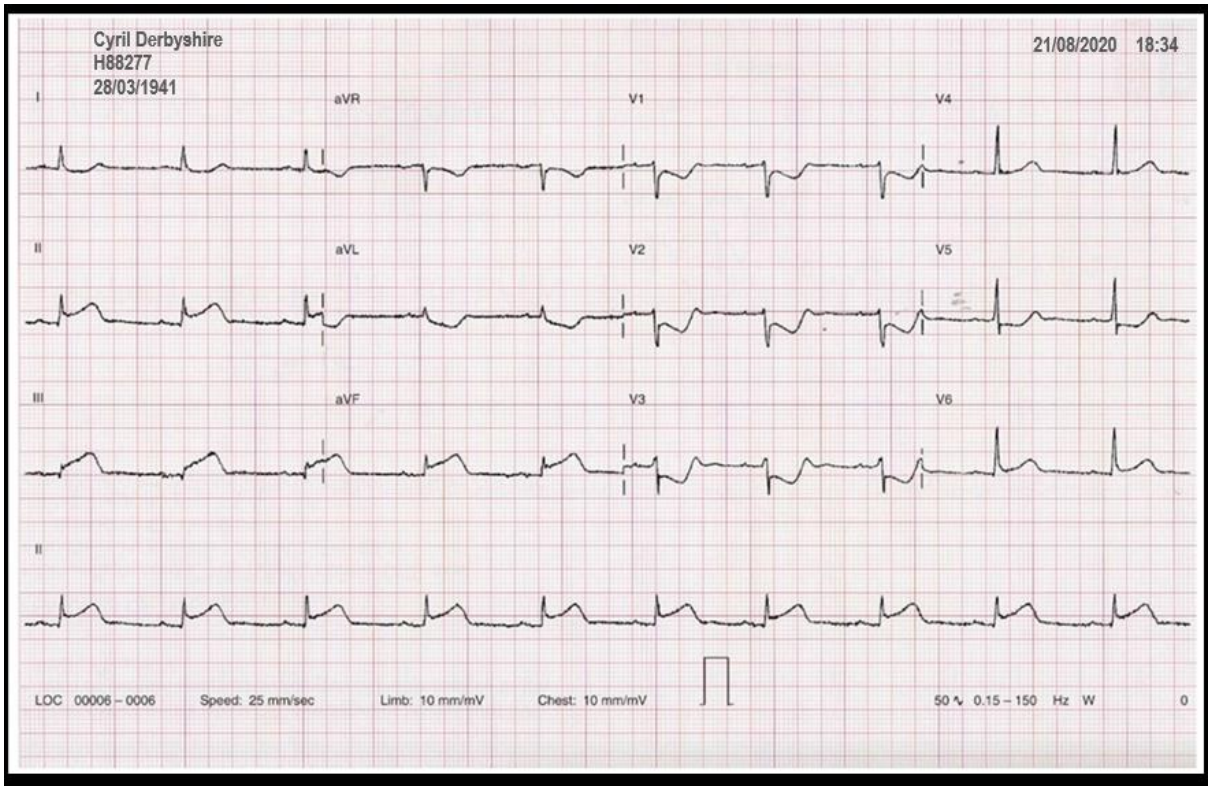
Date added: March 2022

FFICM OSCE Example Questions

Question Number	ICM OSCE Example 2
Question Title	ECG

Candidate instructions:
This station assesses your ability to interpret electrocardiograms. You will be shown ECGs from four different patients.

1. **This ECG is recorded from a patient with a history of stable angina. They have had continuous chest pain for 90 minutes. Please systematically describe this ECG.**

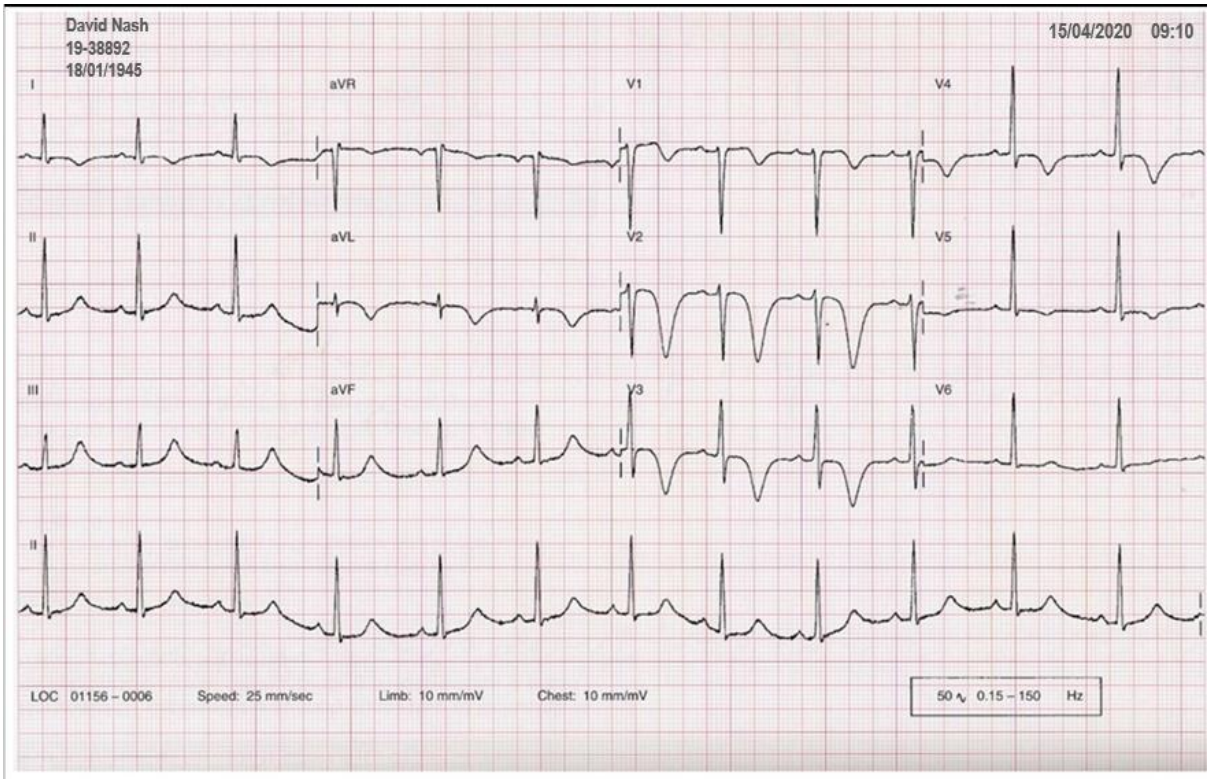


Examiner Marking Guide	Show the candidate ECG A.	
	• Checks patient ID and date/time of ECG (both required for mark) • Sinus rhythm and rate 60 per minute (accept 50 to 75) • ST segment depression leads V1 to V3 • ST segment elevation leads II, III and aVF	

2. **What diagnoses are suggested by this ECG and the clinical details?**

Examiner Marking guide	Prompt 'can you be more specific' if candidate says 'myocardial infarction')
	• Inferior myocardial infarction • Posterior myocardial infarction

3. This ECG was recorded from a 75-year-old patient in ICU who is intubated and ventilated. ECG on admission to ICU was normal. Please systematically describe this ECG.

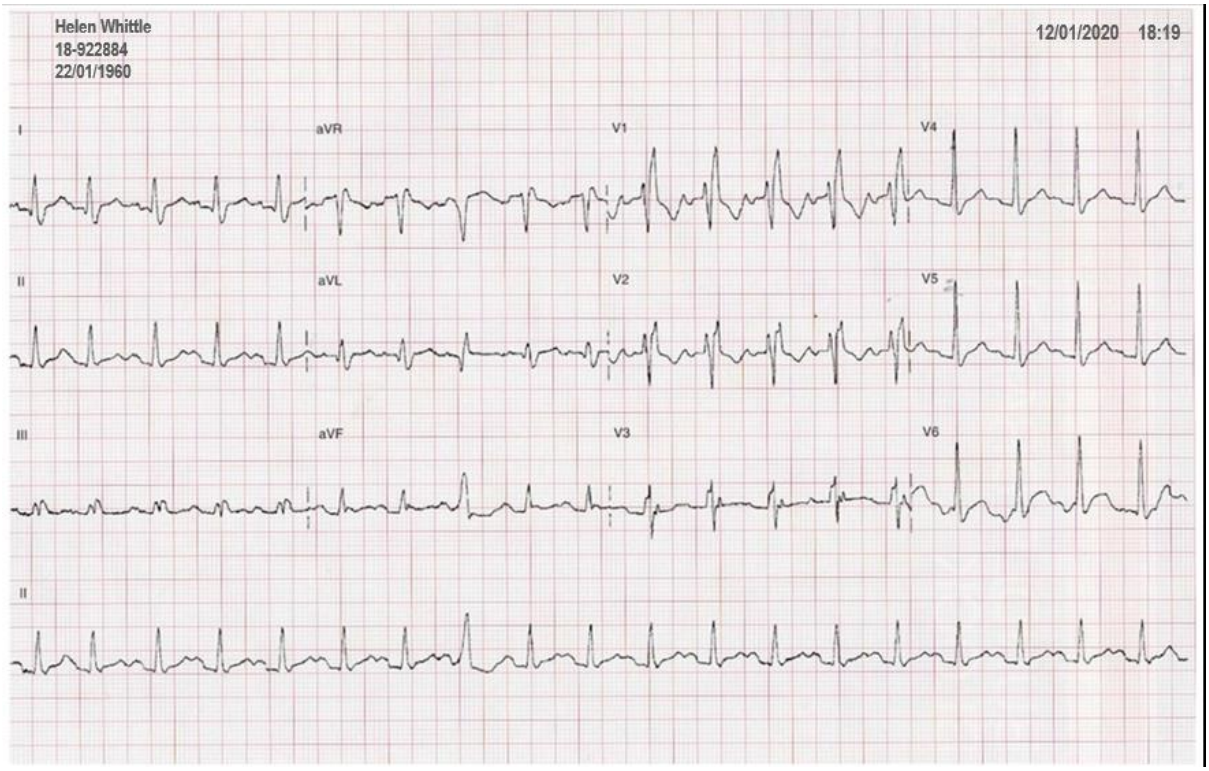


Examiner Marking guide	Show the candidate ECG B.
	• Rate 75 per minute (accept 65 to 85) • Sinus rhythm (accept sinus arrhythmia) • T wave inversion V2 to V4 • T wave inversion aVL

4. What is the most likely diagnosis?

Examiner Marking guide	
	• Myocardial ischaemia (accept 'acute coronary syndrome' or similar)

5. This 60-year-old patient presented to the Emergency Department with breathlessness and chest pain. Please systematically describe this ECG.

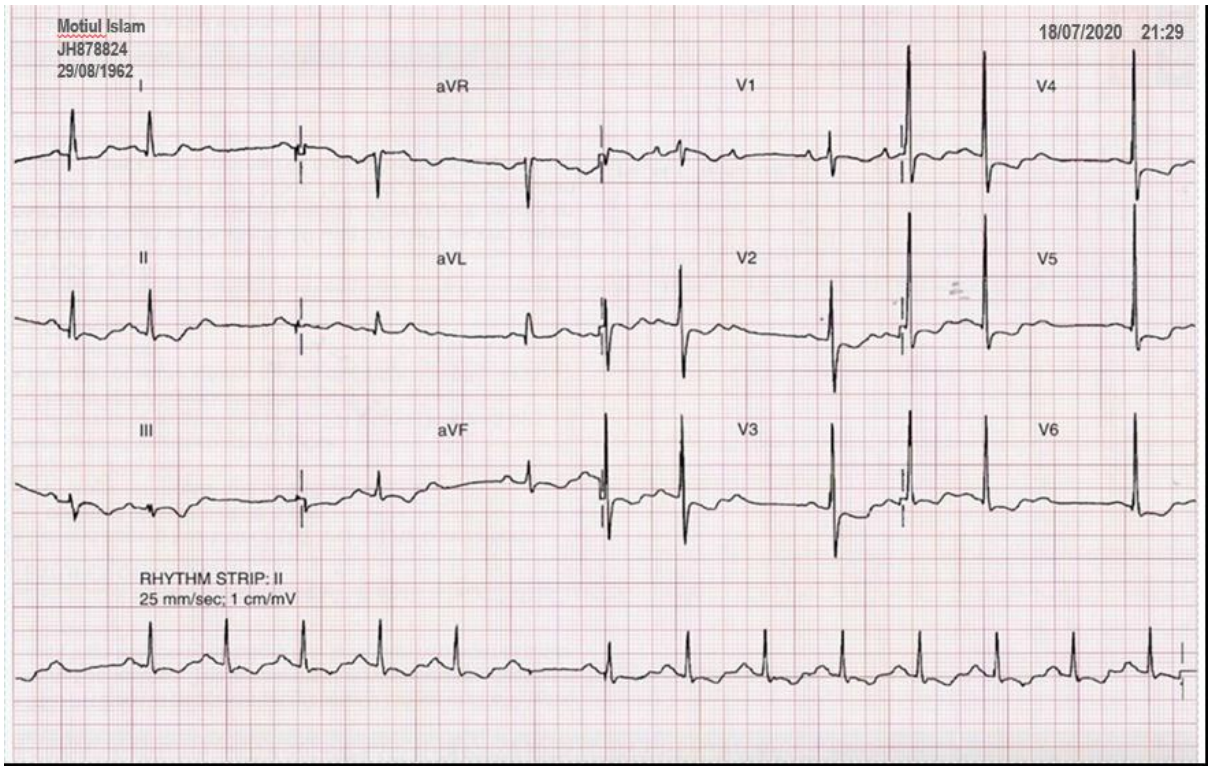


Examiner Marking guide	Show the candidate ECG C.
	• Right bundle branch block (accept RSR pattern in V1) • One premature ventricular extrasystole (accept ectopic beat)

6. Which important diagnoses should you consider as a priority?

Examiner Marking guide	
	• Pulmonary embolism • Coronary artery disease (accept ischaemic heart disease or similar)

7. This 58-year-old patient is admitted to ICU with a history of chest pain and 'collapse'. Please systematically describe this ECG.



Examiner Marking guide	Show the candidate ECG D
	• Rate 50 to 100 per minute, and variable (all required for mark) • Mobitz type II Second degree heart block • Non-specific ST-T wave changes leads V2 to V6

8. What two areas constitute the immediate specific management for this patient?

Examiner Marking guide	
	• Stabilisation of heart rhythm with pacing • Investigation and treatment of precipitant

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NB: Any patient names and details used in these examples are fictitious