

Appendix A – Summary of cardiologists’ response in terms of numbers and percentages of vignettes

Factors	Vignette Response, N (%)			
	Group 1 Cardiologists n=57 Vignettes n=456≈		Group 2 Cardiologists n=54 Vignettes n=432≈	
	CA yes 242(53.1%)	CA no 214(46.9%)	CA yes 251(58.1%)	CA no 181(41.9%)
Troponin†				
significant rise and/or ‘rise and fall’	179 (74.0%)	43 (20.1%)	174 (69.3%)	31 (17.1%)
ECG				
Normal	65 (26.9%)	87 (40.7%)	65 (25.9%)	75 (41.4%)
Atypical changes	68 (28.1%)	90 (42.1%)	71 (28.3%)	73 (40.3%)
Typical ischemic changes	109 (45.0%)	37 (17.3%)	115 (45.8%)	33 (18.2%)
Age (years)				
<70 years (in vignette 65 years)	77 (31.8%)	72 (33.6%)	71 (28.3%)	67 (37.0%)
70-80 years (in vignette 75 years)	102 (42.1%)	55 (25.7%)	107 (42.6%)	40 (22.1%)
>80 years (in vignette 85 years)	63 (26.0%)	87 (40.7%)	73 (29.1%)	74(40.9%)
Renal function				
No renal dysfunction	101 (41.7%)	52 (24.3%)	84 (33.5%)	59 (32.6%)
Mild to moderate renal dysfunction	80 (33.1%)	68 (31.8%)	92 (36.7%)	51 (28.2%)
Severe renal dysfunction	61 (25.2%)	94 (43.9%)	75 (29.9%)	71 (39.2%)
Previous CAD				
Yes	145 (59.9%)	91 (42.5%)	126 (50.2%)	94 (51.9%)
Persistent chest pain				
Yes	139 (57.4%)	81 (37.9%)	145 (57.8%)	67 (37.0%)
Risk factors‡				
No risk factors	73 (30.2%)	74 (34.6%)	79 (31.5%)	62 (34.3%)
One risk factor	77 (31.8%)	74 (34.6%)	80 (31.9%)	55 (30.4%)
More than one risk factor	92 (38.0%)	66 (30.8%)	92 (36.7%)	64 (35.4%)
Risk score outcome∞				
Low	n.a.		32 (12.7%)	66 (36.5%)
Intermediate	n.a.		163 (64.9%)	93 (51.4%)
High	n.a.		56 (22.3%)	22 (12.2%)

† According to cardiologists' own hospital standards. ‡ i.e. diabetes mellitus, hypertension, hypercholesterolemia, smoking, and positive family history. ∞ Calculated risk according to risk score applied in cardiologist own practice (for instance GRACE or TIMI). ≈ Presented data concerns the number of vignettes in which cardiologists decided whether or not to perform a CA given a certain factor. For instance, for factor troponin: in vignettes where cardiologists decided to perform a CA in 74% troponin levels were elevated. Abbreviations: ca, coronary angiography; CAD, coronary artery disease; ECG, electrocardiogram; n.a., not applicable