

USE OF CARDIAC TROPONIN: WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW

**Wayne L. Miller, MD, PhD
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- 1. Use the >99th percentile value to define an elevated value. Know which assay is being used in your institution's clinical laboratory.**
- 2. Be careful with values near the 99th percentile value – more imprecision with false-positives.**
- 3. Rising values = need for prompt evaluation.**
- 4. Use troponin to diagnose reinfarction – 20% delta assures change is real.**
- 5. Elevated but stable values most often can be dealt with via out patient evaluations – e.g., chronic heart failure.**
- 6. All elevated troponin values with present-day assays reflect an increase in risk but severity of risk varies with the mechanism of injury and clinical context.**
- 7. Serial values are important especially in indeterminate risk patients.**
- 8. OBTAIN BASELINE VALUE (outpatient, inpatient, ICU), especially with new high sensitivity-cTnT assays – provides prognostic information and serves as a comparator to assess whether values are changing over time.**