

The 411 on angioplasty

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LEDE: Heart or chest pain is something to take seriously. But when is it right to skip the primary care office and go to the emergency room?

Tim Ditman of OSF HealthCare talked to an expert.

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OSF cardiologist Doctor Tariq Enezate [tah-REEK // EN-eh-zaht] says it comes down to knowing your body.

“If the patient is having sudden chest pain, they’ve never had it before, they don’t know what it is, I think it’s time to seek medical advice and go to the ER.”

Or, if you have a history of heart problems but your treatment isn’t making the new pain go away, head to the ER.

On the other hand, if your chest pain is predictable – like you get it after long walks – Dr. Enezate says try your doctor first.

I’m Tim Ditman.