

## CASE REVIEW

# Finding EXTRAordinary in the Ordinary

**Brittany Tucker, PA-C**

Emergency Medicine



## DATE OF SERVICE

December 5, 2023

## HOSPITAL PARTNER

Grandview Medical Center  
Birmingham, AL

## PATIENT

71-year-old male

## REASON FOR VISIT

Patient arrived in the Emergency Department complaining of chest pain.

## PATIENT OUTCOME

Brittany saw the patient in triage, recognizing symptoms of a potential aortic dissection. After arranging for immediate testing confirming the dissection, he went directly from the ED to the OR for emergency surgery. After a 10-day hospital stay, the patient was discharged home, alive and well.

## EXTRAORDINARY CARE

Brittany assessed this patient in triage. While talking with the patient, Brittany identified concerning signs of an aortic dissection. Despite the bustling activity in the ED, Brittany quickly arranged for an accelerated workup, including IV placement, labs and prompt CT, coordinating with the radiology department. Recognizing the critical nature of the situation, Brittany ensured the patient was immediately directed to CT from triage, prioritizing their imaging study, as any delay could result in a devastating outcome. Brittany's decisive actions undoubtedly saved this individual's life by expediting his care.

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*In the emergency department, our mission is to provide exceptional care to every patient, especially in moments of urgency like this. It's a reminder that our efforts truly make a difference. In this job, we often don't hear about the good that we do, so when you do hear about the good, it's GREAT! It reaffirms our purpose and fuels our commitment to excellence in patient care.*

--Brittany Tucker, PA-C