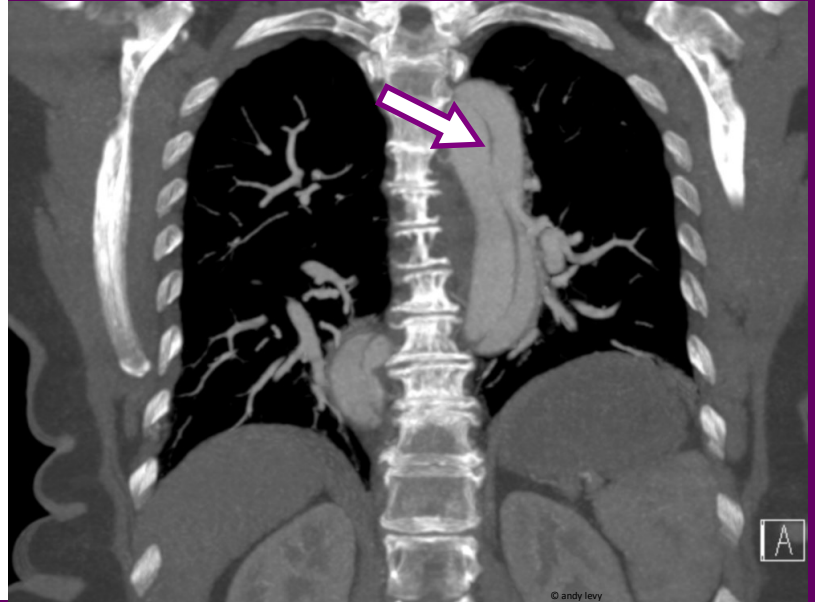


Safety Alert: Missed aortic dissection



Sudden chest pain, maximal at onset?

Particularly if it radiates to the back, think aortic dissection

- Patients feel very unwell or collapse
- The pain can vanish then recur in the epigastrium, *or elsewhere*
- Blood tests can be normal
- ECG and CXR can be normal
- The only way to make the diagnosis is by CT scan