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Tombstone ST Segments

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Shown is the electrocardiogram of precordial lead tracings of a 67-year-old man with an acute myocardial infarction. The patient survived a stormy course that included hypotension and multiple arrhythmic episodes. "Tombstoning" is quite rare, is associated with large infarcts,¹ and has been erroneously used on electrocardiograms showing "hyperacute" changes (high ST segments with tall, pointed T-waves).¹⁻³

References

1 Balci B, Yesildag O. Correlation between clinical findings and "tombstoning" ECG. *Am J Cardiol.* 2003;92:1316-1318.

2 Spodick DH. All tombstones are not equal [letter]. *Lancet.* 1993;342:1000.

3 Wimalaratna HS. "Tombstoning" of ST segment in acute infarction [letter]. *Lancet.* 1993;342:496.

