D/D
The great masquerader

- ACS, pericarditis, CCF
- Asthma / COPD exacerbation
- Pneumothorax / rib fracture
- Pneumonia
- Shock
- Pleurisy
- Rib fracture
- Anxiety
Treatment

• Primary:
• Thrombolysis - may rapidly reverse right heart failure
  • dissolves thrombus
  • prevents the continued release of serotonin
  • dissolves the source of the thrombus - decreasing the likelihood of recurrent PTE
  • preferred is 100 mg tPA as an IV over 2 h
  • respond for up to 14 days
EMBOLECTOMY:
• chronic Pulmonary HTN due to prior PTE

• severely dyspneic at rest or with minimal exertion

• even cure pulmonary hypertension.