Acute Conditions at Ambulatory Visits: Myocardial Infarction

- **An acute myocardial infarction code (i21.-):**
  - Should be used at the time of the acute event and for related care within 28 days of the event.
  - **Pearl:** including the date of acute infarction in a note helps to clarify the 28-day window.
  - **Pearl:** unstable angina (i20.0):
    - considered an acute coronary syndrome.
    - should only be coded when symptoms are present in a given encounter.

- **Once 28 days have passed since the initial acute myocardial infarction:**
  - chronic ischemic heart disease (i25.-) should be used:
    - Example:
      - coronary artery disease (i25.1-)
      - old myocardial infarction (i25.2)