



## ***AWARENESS ALERT ! ACUTE AORTIC SYNDROME (AAS)***

- **What is Acute Aortic Syndrome (AAS)?** *Chest pain as a result of a distended thoracic aorta.*
- **Who has AAS?** *Patients with thoracic aneurysms or dissections combined with hypertension.*
- **Why is AAS a critical condition?** *Without appropriate diagnosis and treatment, aortic rupture or dissection often lead to loss of life.*
- **How is AAS diagnosed?** *With contrast enhanced spiral CT or transesophageal echocardiogram. EKG and cardiac enzymes will be grossly normal.*
- **Where should a patient with AAS receive treatment?** *Preferably, a center with thoracic aortic surgery capabilities. If not available, a medical center with open heart surgery capabilities.*

***For more information please visit us at:  
[www.bicuspidfoundation.com](http://www.bicuspidfoundation.com)***

