SAQ Thoracic Surg

A 65 year old male is visiting your regional centre for a Jehovas Witness Conference and presents with severe central chest pain radiating to both shoulder tips. He is pale and sweaty and looks very unwell.

HR 120 sinus, BP 190/100, RR 28, SpO2 difficult to obtain, Afebrile, GCS 15.

Initial ECG is shows widespread ST depression of 1-2 mm.

1. What is the critical diagnosis to rule out?
2. How will you confirm this diagnosis in your ED?
3. Describe your initial management once the diagnosis is confirmed.
4. What targets will you aim for?
5. While awaiting transfer the patient and his wife wish to discuss blood product use. How do you approach the topic of blood product usage for surgery in this man?