

Diagnostic Studies Online Content (1H)

In order to receive full credit (1H class time) for this assignment, it must be completed in its entirety by 2/13/2023 at 0800. Any assignment not completed in its entirety will result in missed class time.

What blood laboratory studies might be altered in an individual with a venous thromboembolism (VTE)?

Laboratory studies that may be altered in an individual with VTE include ACT, aPTT, INR, Hgb, Hct, and platelet count. The results may be altered if the patient has underlying blood dyscrasias. With polycythemia, there may be increased Hgb and Hct.

What does an elevated D-dimer suggest?

An elevated D-dimer suggests venous thromboembolism (VTE).

A peripheral arteriography and/or venography can be used to detect and visualize what?

A peripheral arteriography and/or venography can be used to assess blood flow using contrast media injected into arteries or veins. Serial x-rays are taken to detect and visualize atherosclerotic plaques, occlusion, aneurysms, venous abnormalities, and traumatic injury.

What problems can a transesophageal echocardiogram (TEE) detect?

A transesophageal echocardiogram (TEE) is frequently used to detect mitral valve disease, endocarditis vegetation, and thrombus prior to cardioversion.

If you are the nurse assisting with a TEE, what are your responsibilities?

Nursing responsibilities include ensuring the patient is NPO for 6 hours, IV access for sedation, monitor vital signs, suction as needed, monitor for complications such as esophageal tears, aspiration, and vasovagal reactions, and have the patient resume eating and drinking when their gag reflex returns.

What is a Lexiscan stress test and why is it performed? What must you, as the nurse, ask the patient prior to performing the test?

A Lexiscan stress test is a chemical stress test that is done when a patient is unable to exercise on a treadmill. As the nurse, I would ask the patient if they have had any caffeine products in the past 12 hours, and if taking Theophylline, have they held it for 24 hours prior to the test.

If you are conducting a stress test on a patient, what are some reasons to conclude or terminate the test?

1. Peak HR is achieved
2. Peak tolerance is achieved
3. Chest pain
4. Significant changes in vital signs from baseline
5. ECG changes indicating cardiac ischemia

What are some things we can identify from a 12-lead ECG?

1. Conduction problems
2. Dysrhythmias
3. Hypertrophy
4. Pericarditis
5. Ischemia or infarction
6. Drug effectiveness

A BNP of 775 would be diagnostic for what? Heart Failure

There are two substances released in the blood when cardiac tissue damage occurs. Name them:

1. Cardiac-specific myocardial muscle protein
2. Cardio-specific isoenzyme

View the following 3-minute TEE video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Us9mXXILSk>

In this particular case they are looking for the presence of what inside the heart?

They are looking for the presence of blood clots in the heart.

Optional question: When the cardiac rhythms shows on the bottom of the TEE screen, what tells you the patient is in A-fib (atrial fibrillation)?

The irregular rhythm and high heart rate shows that the patient is in atrial fibrillation.