

Diagnostic Studies
Online Content (1H)

Unit Objectives:

- **Interpret results of diagnostic tests in relation to patient symptoms and assessment findings. (1,2)***
(*Course Objectives)

In order to receive full credit (1H class time) for this assignment, it must be completed in its entirety and submitted to the Unit 4- Diagnostic Studies Dropbox by 2/12/2024 at 0800. Any assignment not completed in its entirety will result in missed class time, and must be made up before the end of the semester.

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

A laboratory study that might be elevated would be a D-dimer. A D- dimer could indicate clot formation and if it is elevated it suggest a VTE. It is elevated in the presence of fibrin degradation products.

What does an elevated D-dimer suggest?

A D- dimer could indicate clot formation and if it is elevated it suggest a VTE. It is elevated in the presence of fibrin degradation products.

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

X-rays taken to visualize and detect venous abnormalities, aneurysms, occlusions, traumatic injuries and atherosclerotic plaques.

What problems can a transesophageal echocardiogram (TEE) detect?

Thrombus prior to cardioversion, mitral valve disease and endocarditis vegetation.

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

The nursing responsibilities are to get IV access for sedation, monitor VS, suction as needed, ensure NPO for 6 hours, resume eating and drinking when gag reflex returns, monitor for complications.

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?

Lexiscan stress test is a chemical stress test done when a patient is unable to exercise on a treadmill. As the nurse I must ask what medications the patient is on, what their medical history is and if they have made sure to withhold caffeine for the past 12 hours.

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

1. Changes in vital signs from baseline
2. ECG changes
3. Chest pain
4. Dizziness or syncope
5. Extreme changes in blood pressure

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

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

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. CK-MB
2. Troponin

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 were looking for the presence of abnormal structures like blood clots.

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)?

An irregular rhythm, absence of P waves, narrow QRS, f waves rapid atrial pulse.