

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)?

- ACT, aPTT, INR, Hgb, Hct, and platelet count

What does an elevated D-dimer suggest?

- Possible venous thromboembolism

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

- Atherosclerotic plaques
- Occlusion
- Aneurysms
- Venous abnormalities
- Traumatic injury

What problems can a transesophageal echocardiogram (TEE) detect?

- Mitral valve disease
- Endocarditis
- Thrombus prior to cardioversion

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

- Ensure NPO for 6 hours
- IV assess for sedation purposes
- Monitor VS and suction prn
- Monitor for complications (esophageal tears, aspiration, vasovagal reactions)
- Resume eating and drinking when 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?

Lexiscan stimulates the effects of exercise, and is performed when the patient is unable to walk on a treadmill. It is a type of stress test, and the nurse must ask the patient prior to the test if they have had any caffeine products or Theophylline before this test, as well as if they are allergic to the nuclear agent that will be injected into them.

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

1. Chest pain
2. HR peak is achieved
3. changes in VS from baseline
4. ECG changes show ischemia
5. peak tolerance is achieved

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. troponin
2. CK-MB

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?

- 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)?

- There are no p-waves seen, and the space between the QRS complexes just quivers and has little action, causing their to be very fine waves throughout.