Diagnostic Studies

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, platelet count

What does an elevated D-dimer suggest? Fragment of fibrin formed as a result of fibrin degradation and clot lysis

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

Used to assess blood flow using contrast media injected into arteries or veins

What problems can a transesophageal echocardiogram (TEE) detect?

Mitral valve disease, endocarditis vegetation, thrombus prior to cardioversion

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

Ensure NPO for 6 hrs, IV access for sedation, monitor VS, suction as needed.

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? Stress test chemical stress test done when a patient is unable to exercise on a treadmill. Nuclear agent provides perfusion images, that are used to diagnose CAD. Confirm allergies, patient must hold all caffeine products for 12 hrs. Ask if the patient has any respiratory issues before performing & chest pain.

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

1. chest pain
2. changes in VS from baseline
3. EKG changes indicating ischemia
4. SOB/Dyspnea
5. Lightheaded/dizziness

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. 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?

Looking for blood clots in the heart because he has been in a fib. Looking for congenital abnormalities such as a hole in his 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)? Chaotic electrical activity in the atria. No distinct P waves that is often accompanied by small, rapid, fibrillatory waves.