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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)?

- D-Dimer
- INR
- PT
- PTT
- Sodium/K/Ca/Magnesium
- Troponin

What does an elevated D-dimer suggest?

- That the individual has a VTE.

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

- How blood is flowing through arteries and veins. They can detect injuries, aneurysms, occlusions, plaque build up, and congenital or acquired defects.

What problems can a transesophageal echocardiogram (TEE) detect?

- A TEE can detect mitral valve disease, endocarditis vegetation, and a thrombus prior to cardioversions.

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

- Ensure the patient is NPO for at least 6 hours prior, gain IV access for sedation, monitor vital signs and suction as needed, monitor for potential complications such as esophageal tears, aspiration, and vasovagal reactions along with the return of a gag reflex.

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 the alternative stress test when a patient is unable to exercise on a treadmill, it can mimic the effect of exercise; it has the ability to diagnose coronary artery disease. Before hand ask the patient when they last had caffeine, if they take theophylline and when they took it last, and their allergies.

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

1. Arrhythmias
2. Patient is saying stop
3. Syncope
4. Over exertion
5. Patient expresses they feel nauseous or fatigued

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 related to sustained atrial fibrillation.

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 was no discernable QRS complex.