

August 3, 2021 AHD Learning Objectives

Heart Failure

1. Describe a differential diagnosis for HFrEF and a separate differential diagnosis for HFpEF. Describe the how the pathophysiology of each of these entities results in the same clinical syndrome.
2. Compare the New York Heart Association (NYHA) Functional Classification of Heart Failure with the ACC/AHA Stages of Heart Failure.
3. Describe the utility of BNP or NT-pro BNP values to help diagnose heart failure and the sensitivity and specificity. How does obesity affect the BNP level?
4. List the drugs that reduce mortality in the management of systolic heart failure. Describe the other pharmacologic therapies for systolic heart failure that improve hospitalization rate or help control symptoms but do not reduce mortality. What are the indications for aldosterone antagonists specifically?
5. Describe the optimal therapy in a patient who presents to the hospital in heart failure exacerbation.

Heart Failure Devices and Advanced Techniques

1. Describe the indications for Implanted Cardioverter- Defibrillator (ICD) in patients with heart failure to prevent sudden cardiac death.
2. Describe the benefit of Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy (CRT) in patients with heart failure and know the indications for this device therapy.
3. Describe the patient who would benefit from cardiac rehabilitation.
4. Know the prognostic clinical indicators of increased mortality from heart failure in the next six months.
5. Describe the patient who is appropriate to referral for advanced heart failure consultation.

Preoperative Cardiac Risk Stratification

1. Describe the internist's role in the evaluation of the patient for preoperative cardiac assessment. Describe the patient who should be seen by a cardiologist before surgery.
2. Describe the patient who is low, intermediate, and high risk for perioperative Major Adverse Cardiac Event (MACE) according to the Revised Cardiac Risk Index (RCRI) and the American College of Surgeons National Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP).
3. List the surgeries that are considered low, intermediate, and high risk.
4. Define emergent, urgent, and elective surgery.
5. Define metabolic equivalent (MET) and describe the activities that require 4 or more METs.
6. Apply the ACC/AHA algorithm to patient cases to determine the correct perioperative plan.