

Medical Literature Review



Infectious Disease

Question: What is the sensitivity and specificity for POCT (point of care testing) for RSV?

Answer: Sensitivity is approximately 75% and specificity greater than 90%.

Source: *Journal of Clinical Virology*, 2004; 31:130-133.

Family Practice/Internal Medicine

Question: Furosemide and morphine sulfate have historically been first-line treatment for acute cardiogenic pulmonary edema. What drug is now considered first-line treatment for this presentation?

Answer: Nitroglycerin. This preload reduction medication is now considered first-line treatment if the patient is not hypotensive. Also consider non-invasive continuous positive airway pressure for APE (acute pulmonary edema).

Source: *Canadian Journal Rural Medicine*, 2008; 13(3):121-128.

Medication Management

Question: Three sublingual doses of 0.4mg of nitroglycerin given every 5 minutes produces what serum level of NTG?

Answer: This dosing provides the bioequivalent of 60 micrograms/minute.

Source: *Audio Digest Emergency Medicine*, 2006; 23(21).

Urgent/Emergent Care

Question: Is a B-type natriuretic peptide (BNP) a useful test to order with a STEMI?

Answer: The results do not influence management. However, a significantly elevated BNP correlates with a larger infarct size and increased short-term risk of mortality.

Source: *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*, October 2009; page 17.

Nursing Focused Care

Question: What is the most common, serious, adverse event that occurs with hospitalization?

Answer: DVT and pulmonary embolus. This serious risk is generally under-appreciated.

Source: *American College of Physicians*, March 2006; *ACP Observer*.

Risk Management

Question: SAH is suspected. CT scan is negative. Can a MRI replace the LP as a second diagnostic test to rule out SAH?

Answer: No. The false negative rate for MRI does not obviate the need for LP when SAH is a significant clinical concern.

Source: *American Journal of Neuroradiology*, 2004; 25(4):545-550.

Practice Pearl

Question: A student athlete, enrolled at a Washington State public school, suffers a concussion while engaging in practice or competition as a member of a school team. Washington State Law (RCW 28A.600.190) requires what actions be taken?

Answer: The law requires that the student be removed immediately from play. Return to play cannot occur until the athlete receives written clearance by a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussion. This law, passed in 2009, is known as the Zackery Lystedt Law.

Source: *Washington State Legislature*. RCW 28A.600.190.