

Preoperative Testing Guidelines

(9/08)

EKG

All patients over 50 (this is the only routine test by age criteria)

Patients with a history of cardiac disease

Diabetic patients over 40

Glucose

Diabetic patients on day of surgery, whether on insulin or oral agent

Hematocrit and Platelet Count

Indicated by patient history (ongoing blood loss, anemia, chemo Rx) or anticipated surgical blood loss, invasive surgery

Electrolytes, BUN, Creatinine

Indicated by patient history, invasive surgery, or anticipated excessive blood loss

Chronic diuretic use is not an indication for serum K testing in otherwise healthy patients

Coagulation tests

Indicated for patients with history of bleeding disorder, or on anticoagulants

If not documented as being normal, need testing on the day of surgery

Chest X Ray and Pulmonary Function Tests

Indicated for pulmonary debilitated patients, or those with recent change in symptoms.

Indicated for major thoracic surgery

EKG Abnormalities

The following **new onset EKG abnormalities** require further cardiac evaluation:

Any **new** onset cardiac arrhythmia, i.e. atrial fibrillation or flutter, SVT

LBBB

Type 2 second degree or 3rd degree heart block

ST wave elevation or depression

Q wave pattern indicative of MI

Prolonged QT interval with hx of syncope or family hx of sudden death

Short PR interval with palpitations, syncope

The following diagnoses, if appropriately noted in **previous EKGs** or by **physician history**, usually do not require further evaluation:

First degree or Type 1 second degree heart block

Known RBBB, LBBB, LAFB

PVCs