

Pacemaker Questions

1. What are some indications or rhythms for using different types of pacemakers?
 - a. Dual chamber?
 - b. Single chamber?
 - c. Biventricular?
 - d. ICD?
2. How should primary care providers counsel their patients with lifestyle changes associated with an implantable device?
3. How often do pacemakers require follow up and service?
4. How should primary care providers make sure their patients are compliant with their pacemaker?
5. How reliable are the devices? How should primary care providers counsel patients who are concerned their device isn't working properly?
6. What is a pacemakers source of power?
7. How often should implantable devices be replaced?
8. What are some complications of implanting pacemakers?
9. How long is a pacemaker implantation surgery?
10. What is the procedure of a pacemaker implantation surgery?
11. What do you need to do before an implantation surgery to ensure the patient is ready for a pacemaker?
12. What medical management do you try before implanting a pacemaker?
 - a. Is it different for different pathologies?
13. How often do patients with a pacemaker need to have it checked to make sure it is working properly?
14. Are there any medications patients need to be on specifically because they have a pacemaker?
15. Do pacemakers fail?
 - a. If so, what is the next step?
16. What is the most common indication for a pacemaker?
17. What kind of doctor should patients look for to perform the surgery? How do they determine where to place the pacemaker and the leads?
18. Which companies produce the more superior product in regards to reliability and longevity?
19. How are the devices adjusted? How often should they be readjusted?
20. What are some of the most common settings used for pacemaker or ICDs?
21. What kind of diet should a patient be on who has an implantable device?
22. Is there ever an indication to take a pacemaker out?
23. How long is a pacemaker supposed to last?

24. What are some contraindications to implanting a pacemaker?
25. Would you ever implant just an ICD and not a pacemaker along with it?

Arrhythmia Questions

1. What causes someone go into atrial flutter vs. atrial fibrillation?
2. When is rate or rhythm control preferred?
3. When do you choose ablation therapy vs pacemaker vs medical therapy vs cardioversion?
4. How should a primary care provider counsel their patients on concerns with AFIB?
5. Why do people experience palpitations? What are some ways to reduce chest palpitations?
6. What are common complaints presented by people with arrhythmias?
7. What are the concerns for patients who remain in persistent arrhythmia?
8. What patients should primary care providers assess with an EKG?
9. What EKG findings should we be concerned for when assessing arrhythmias?
10. When should cardiology be consulted with asymptomatic AFIB?
11. Does a sinus arrhythmia ever become a problem?
12. How long can someone be in a complete heart block rhythm without feeling symptoms?
 - a. Is this different for Mobitz Type 2 heart blocks?
13. How would you treat a Mobitz Type 1 heart block?
14. Is “precordial thump” an effective treatment for pulseless V-fib or V-tach?
15. When should patients manage an episode of a-fib at home vs. when should they go to the ER?
16. How do patients present when they are in a junctional rhythm? (symptoms, etc.)
17. How do patients present when they are in a ventricular rhythm (not V-tach or V-fib)?
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