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DEPARTMENT OF CARDIAC TECHNOLOGY

PUZZLES FOR THE SUBJECT OF ADVANCED ECG, TMT AND 24 HRS AMBULATORY HOLTER AND BP RECORDINGS

Unit-4

Multiple Choice Questions on Exercise Physiology, Exercise Protocols, Lead Systems, Patient Preparation, ST Segment Displacement, Non-Electrocardiographic Observations, Exercise Test Indications, Contra-Indications, Precautions, Cardiac Arrhythmias, Conduction Disturbances, and Emergencies in Stress Testing

- 1. What is the primary physiological purpose of exercise stress testing?
 - a) To assess respiratory function only
 - b) To evaluate cardiovascular response to physical stress
 - c) To measure muscle strength
 - d) To determine joint flexibility
- 2. Which exercise protocol is most commonly used for treadmill stress testing?
 - a) Bruce protocol
 - b) Naughton protocol
 - c) Balke protocol
 - d) Astrand protocol
- 3. How many leads are typically used in a standard 12-lead ECG system during exercise stress testing?
 - a) 6
 - b) 8
 - c) 10
 - d) 12
- 4. What is a critical step in patient preparation for an exercise stress test?
 - a) Encouraging heavy meals before the test
 - b) Ensuring the patient avoids caffeine and certain medications
 - c) Administering sedatives prior to testing
 - d) Instructing the patient to exercise vigorously beforehand
- 5. Which type of ST-segment displacement is most indicative of myocardial ischemia during stress testing?
 - a) Upsloping ST depression
 - b) Horizontal or downsloping ST depression
 - c) ST elevation in non-infarct leads
 - d) J-point elevation





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- 6. How is ST-segment displacement typically measured during an exercise stress test?
 - a) At the peak of the T wave
 - b) 80 ms after the J point
 - c) At the onset of the QRS complex
 - d) During the P wave
- 7. Which non-electrocardiographic observation is commonly monitored during stress testing?
 - a) Blood glucose levels
 - b) Blood pressure response
 - c) Thyroid function
 - d) Liver enzyme levels
- 8. What is a primary indication for performing an exercise stress test?
 - a) Routine screening in asymptomatic patients
 - b) Evaluation of chest pain suggestive of coronary artery disease
 - c) Assessment of chronic kidney disease
 - d) Monitoring post-surgical wound healing
- 9. Which of the following is an absolute contraindication for exercise stress testing?
 - a) Stable angina
 - b) Acute myocardial infarction within 48 hours
 - c) Controlled hypertension
 - d) Mild valvular heart disease
- 10. What precaution should be taken during stress testing to ensure patient safety?
 - a) Allowing the patient to continue despite severe chest pain
 - b) Monitoring for arrhythmias and stopping the test if necessary
 - c) Encouraging maximal exertion in all patients
 - d) Avoiding ECG monitoring during the test
- 11. Which cardiac arrhythmia is most concerning during exercise stress testing?
 - a) Sinus tachycardia
 - b) Ventricular tachycardia





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- c) Atrial premature beats
- d) First-degree AV block
- 12. What is a common conduction disturbance observed during exercise stress testing?
 - a) Left bundle branch block
 - b) Sinus bradycardia
 - c) Atrial flutter
 - d) Normal sinus rhythm
- 13. Which emergency in the stress testing laboratory requires immediate defibrillation?
 - a) Supraventricular tachycardia
 - b) Ventricular fibrillation
 - c) Sinus arrhythmia
 - d) Atrial fibrillation
- 14. What is the target heart rate typically aimed for during an exercise stress test?
 - a) 50% of maximum predicted heart rate
 - b) 85% of maximum predicted heart rate
 - c) 100 beats per minute
 - d) 200 beats per minute
- 15. Which lead system is most commonly used to detect ischemic changes during stress testing?
 - a) Single-lead system
 - b) 3-lead system
 - c) 12-lead system
 - d) Bipolar lead system
- 16. What is a key component of patient preparation before an exercise stress test?
 - a) Shaving chest hair to ensure electrode adhesion
 - b) Administering beta-blockers immediately before the test
 - c) Encouraging smoking to relax the patient
 - d) Providing a high-carbohydrate meal





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- 17. Which type of ST-segment displacement is least likely to indicate ischemia?
 - a) Horizontal ST depression
 - b) Downsloping ST depression
 - c) Upsloping ST depression
 - d) ST elevation in infarcted territory
- 18. What is a common non-electrocardiographic symptom to monitor during stress testing?
 - a) Joint pain
 - b) Dyspnea or shortness of breath
 - c) Visual acuity changes
 - d) Skin temperature
- 19. Which condition is a relative contraindication for exercise stress testing?
 - a) Uncontrolled hypertension
 - b) Recent stroke within 1 month
 - c) Stable chronic heart failure
 - d) Acute pulmonary embolism
- 20. What is the purpose of the recovery phase in exercise stress testing?
 - a) To increase exercise intensity
 - b) To monitor for post-exercise arrhythmias or ischemia
 - c) To administer medications
 - d) To perform a second stress test
- 21. Which arrhythmia during stress testing is considered benign in most cases?
 - a) Ventricular tachycardia
 - b) Atrial premature contractions
 - c) Ventricular fibrillation
 - d) Complete heart block
- 22. What is a common cause of false-positive ST-segment changes during stress testing?
 - a) Hyperkalemia
 - b) Left ventricular hypertrophy





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- c) Acute myocardial infarction
- d) Coronary artery occlusion
- 23. Which piece of equipment is essential in the stress testing laboratory for managing emergencies?
 - a) Defibrillator
 - b) Blood glucose monitor
 - c) Spirometer
 - d) Ultrasound machine
- 24. What is the typical duration of the Bruce protocol stages during treadmill stress testing?
 - a) 1 minute
 - b) 3 minutes
 - c) 5 minutes
 - d) 10 minutes
- 25. Which of the following is a key indication for terminating an exercise stress test?
 - a) Patient reaching 50% of predicted heart rate
 - b) Development of sustained ventricular tachycardia
 - c) Mild fatigue with no ECG changes
 - d) Normal blood pressure response
- 26. What is a common non-electrocardiographic observation that may indicate exercise intolerance?
 - a) Increased oxygen saturation
 - b) Excessive fatigue or inability to continue
 - c) Stable heart rate
 - d) Normal respiratory rate
- 27. Which electrolyte imbalance can increase the risk of arrhythmias during stress testing?
 - a) Hypernatremia
 - b) Hypokalemia
 - c) Hypercalcemia
 - d) Hypermagnesemia





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- 28. What is a critical precaution to take during exercise stress testing?
 - a) Ensuring the presence of trained personnel and emergency equipment
 - b) Allowing patients to eat during the test
 - c) Ignoring minor ECG changes
 - d) Encouraging maximal exertion in all cases
- 29. Which conduction disturbance during stress testing may indicate underlying coronary artery disease?
 - a) First-degree AV block
 - b) Exercise-induced left bundle branch block
 - c) Sinus arrhythmia
 - d) Normal AV conduction
- 30. What is the immediate response to a patient experiencing cardiac arrest in the stress testing laboratory?
 - a) Administer beta-blockers
 - b) Initiate cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and defibrillation
 - c) Continue the exercise test
 - d) Monitor without intervention