

Lecture summaries

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Nursing the traumatic brain injury patient

This lecture will look at the initial presentation and emergency management of the traumatic brain injury patient, progressing into longer term patient needs. Focussing on initial presentation and imaging, the nursing care required for these patients - taking into account prolonged hospitalised stays; including addressing nutritional needs, pain management and anxiety management. Other points will include nursing patients with increased intracranial pressure secondary to electrolyte imbalance and how we can address these issues in both the ER / OOH clinic and ICU.

Learning goals

1. Feeling confident in suspected TBI presentation
2. Understanding adequate imaging techniques in ER / OOH clinic
3. Confidence in nursing management of TBI patients
4. Understanding of appropriate nutritional and fluid balance, pain management and anxiolytics

Essential ECG interpretation

This lecture will assess common ECG arrhythmias seen in the ER / OOH clinic and ICU setting. From initial emergency presentation to changes seen in our hospitalised patients. Initially reviewing the anatomy of the heart and pathway of cardiac electrical conductance, to understanding metabolic disturbance and primary heart disease which can cause many ECG abnormalities seen in clinic, requiring vastly different levels of treatment and care.

Learning goals

1. Gain understanding of the cardiac electrical pathway
2. Knowledge of common ECG abnormalities presenting in emergency clinic and ICU
3. Understanding the difference of secondary (eg metabolic) cause and primary cardiac disease - causing ECG abnormality
4. Gain confidence in addressing ECG abnormalities and treatment - primary? secondary?