

Clinical Guidance

Preoperative management of Bradyarrhythmias and Heart block in patients undergoing non-cardiac surgery

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1.0 Introduction

This guideline has been developed to help clinical staff (doctors and nurses) working in the Anaesthetic Central Preoperative Assessment Clinic (CPOAC) and Perioperative medicine for Older People undergoing Surgery (POPS) clinic optimise patients with bradyarrhythmias and heart block for non-cardiac surgery.

2.0 Scope

The authors acknowledge the importance of making individualised patient management decisions based on several patient, surgical and anaesthetic factors.

The guideline algorithm provides a systematic approach to preoperative workup for this group of patients, and advocates shared decision making with appropriate involvement of cardiac, POPS and anaesthetic specialist teams based on the needs of the patient.

3.0 Contact details

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4.0 Abbreviations

CPOAC: Central Preoperative Assessment Clinic, Department of Anaesthesia

POPS: Perioperative medicine for Older People undergoing Surgery

LBBB: Left bundle branch block RBBB: Right bundle branch block CHB: Complete heart block

SOB: Shortness of breath

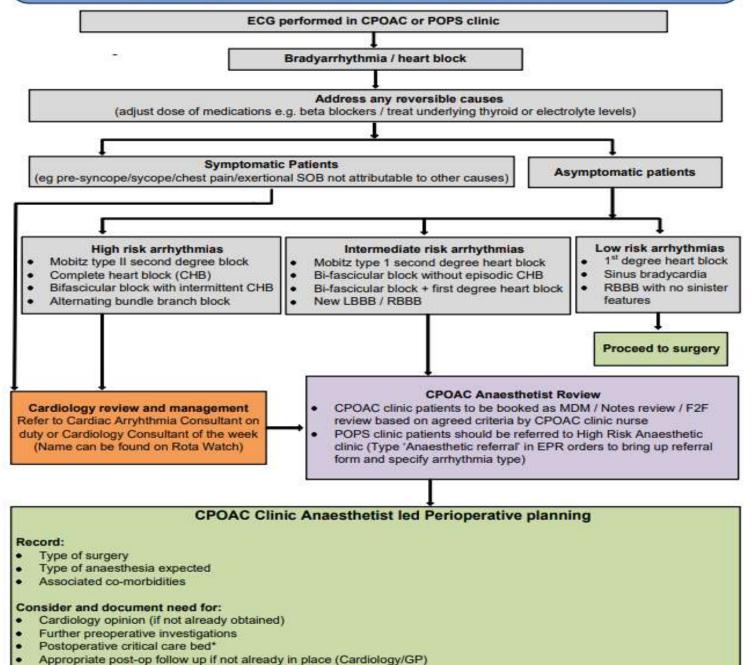
MDM: Multi-disciplinary meeting

F2F: Face to face clinic

ACU: Assisted conception unit

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2018 ACC/AHA/HRS Guidelines on evaluation and management of patients with bradycardia and cardiac conduction delay 2012 ACC/AHA/HRS Focussed update of the 2008 guideline for device based therapy of cardiac rhythm abnormalities

Remote sites e.g. Nuffield House, Tower wing Dental theatres, ACU, Eye theatres**

*Monitored post-operative beds will not normally be booked for patients solely on the basis of an asymptomatic arrhythmia
**Since cardiology services are located at St Thomas*, Guy's hospital may be considered 'remote' in some circumstances

Decide if the case is suitable for:
 Weekend scheduling