

Preoperative Tests scope stakeholder discussions

Date: Friday 14th February 2014

Time 10am-1pm

4.1 Population

(Group that will be covered and groups that will not be covered)

Children:

- Group 1 suggested to exclude children ASA 3 and above and perhaps to also exclude ASA 1 and 2 children as children have very specialised management and were often dealt with in child specific care.
- Group 2 suggested including both ASA grade 1 and ASA2 children or exclude them altogether.
- Group 3 suggested to keep children ASA 1 included, as per the original guideline, and to exclude children with co-morbidities (ASA grades 2 and above).
- Group 1 and 2 thought it may be appropriate for children to have their own separate guidance rather than be included in the current guidance.

Diabetes:

- Group 1, 2 & 3 suggested including diabetes as a co-morbidity.

ASA grades:

- Group 3 agreed with the exclusion of ASA4 as these people will have all these investigations done already. Group 1 and 2 consensus was that ASA grade 4 would have elective surgery and therefore should be included.
- Groups 1 and 2 suggested that ASA 1&2 and ASA 3&4 should be grouped together.
- Groups 1, 2 and 3 all agreed that preoperative testing of ASA 1 and ASA 2 does not differ in practice.

Grades of surgery:

- Groups 1 and 2 did not agree with the use of the 4 surgery grades used the original guideline.
- Group 3 suggested new approaches had blurred the lines between surgery grades
- Group 2 suggested surgery grade 1&2 together, and surgery grade 3 and 4

	<p>separate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group 1 suggested that the grades could be minor, intermediate and major or could be even separated to just 2 grades. <p>Surgeries at specialist centres:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group 2 and 3 suggested that neurosurgery and cardiothoracic surgery should not be included separately within the guideline (only as part of GRADE 4 surgery), as these types of surgery are performed at specialist centres and their management is guided by specific guidelines.
4.2 Setting	<p>Groups 1, 2 & 3 agreed that some tests may be carried out in primary care and the guideline should therefore include the primary care setting.</p>
4.3 Management	<p>Discussion around use of the word ‘consider’ in the original guideline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group 1 expressed that in practice ‘consider’ generally meant ‘yes’ and there was a need for current ‘considers’ to be changed. Group 2 suggested that all ‘considers’ – say ‘there is no evidence’. Group 3 suggested that in the case of there being no new evidence for a previously included test it should remain included in the scope because these recommendations were likely to change from ‘consider’ to ‘no’. <p>Random glucose and HbA1C:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group 1, 2 & 3 suggested random glucose tests may be of limited clinical value for pre-operative assessment. Groups 1, 2 & 3 suggested that random blood glucose should be replaced by HbA1c. Group 2 considered that in undiagnosed diabetes HbA1C could be useful in specific patients (depending on BMI and ethnic origin) due to the high risk of perioperative complications in patients with diabetes. <p>Transthoracic echocardiography (resting echo):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group 1 and 2 expressed that transthoracic echo (resting ECHO) is currently overused, and it is only useful in selective populations.

	<p>Other exercise tests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 3 suggested the inclusion of other exercise tests, simpler than CPET, which are not covered but may be of help. E.g. Step tests. <p>Length of validity of a test:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 1 discussed that it may be useful to include the length of validity of a test, to avoid unnecessary duplication of testing.
<p>4.4 Main outcomes</p>	<p>ICU admission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 2 and 3 suggested admission to, and length of stay in, ICU should be added.