

New Protocols for Pre-Operative Investigations for ENT/Maxfax & (Surgical) Pre-Assessment Clinics

Policy Statement: Routine screening tests have shown to be of no benefit to patients. Tests should only be ordered on the basis of history & examination where clinically indicated. The Anaesthetics Division has agreed to this policy.

Phlebotomy

FBC

Being female is NOT an indication to do FBC

- Patients who give a history suggestive of Anaemia i.e. Tiredness, lethargy or disease process which is known to lead to anaemia.
i.e.
- Menorrhagia
- Rectal Bleeding
- Renal/Hepatic Disease
- Haematological Disease
- Females having S.T.O.P.
- Where significant intra-operative blood loss is expected.

U&E's

- Patient's taking Diuretic Medication, Ace Inhibitors, Digoxin, Lithium or Steroids.
- Patients with renal / Hepatic disease, including heavy alcohol intake.
- Patients suffering from Hypertension.

Coagulation Screen

- History of bleeding disorder
- Unexpected bruising
- Patients taking anticoagulants
- Patients with severe hepatic disease
- Patients taking alcohol in excess

Group & Save

Patients should be cross Matched in accordance with the MSBOS guidelines.

Other Screening Tests

ECG

Patients suffering from

- All patients over 50 Years of age
- Angina
- History of MI
- Cardiac Arrhythmia
- Cardiac Failure / Cardiac Disease
- Hypertension
- Diabetes
- Patients having surgery for Peripheral Vascular Disease

If an ECG is available less than 2 months old & symptoms have not changed, repeat ECG is not required.

CXR

- Patients who are likely to go to ITU Post-Operatively
- Suspected Malignancy (this includes patients who have Airway Tumours)
- Suspected TB
- Severe Symptomatic Cardio-Respiratory disease where no CxR has been performed in the last year

There is no reason to do routine CxR due to a patients age.

AUDIOLOGY

- Patients requiring Grommet Insertion
- Patients having EUA of Ears
- Patients requiring Major Ear Surgery Procedures

If an Audiogram is available within 4-6 weeks of Surgery date and symptoms have not changed then a further Audiogram is not required.

Standard Investigations for all Patients

- Blood Pressure (not children under 14 years)
- Pulse
- Temperature
- Weight
- Routine Urinalysis
- Mallampatti Classification
- B.M.I. **Patients can now be admitted on the day of their surgery with a B.M.I. of 36 or less**