



Dear Physician:

Thank you for choosing the University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Health System for your patient's surgical and perioperative care. In an effort to provide the safest and most cost-effective care, we have developed new evidence-based guidelines for preparing your patient for their upcoming surgical procedure.

Included in the new guidelines is information pertaining to the following:

- Preoperative Preparation Guidelines
- Operative Risk Stratification Guide (High / Intermediate / Low Risk)
- Anesthesia Pre-Operative Testing Guidelines
- Preoperative Management of Antithrombotic and Warfarin Bridging Tool
- Guidelines for Perioperative Medication Management
- Patient Medication Instructions
- STOP BANG Sleep Apnea Screening Tool

Several key differences should be noted between the previous and current guidelines:

- A reduction in the number of tests needed
- Increased emphasis on exercise tolerance/activity level
- An emphasis on preoperative medication management

It should also be noted that testing to obtain an answer to a specific question for the physician performing the procedure is at the discretion of that physician (renal function studies before a dye load, urinalysis before deciding to implant a foreign body).

We would like to thank you in advance for your assistance in preparing your patient for their upcoming procedure. Should you have any questions regarding these new guidelines, or if assistance is needed in determining the appropriate testing that is needed for your patient, please contact the Pre Surgical Testing department for Upper Chesapeake Medical Center at 443.643.3660 and for Harford Memorial Hospital at 443.843.5358.

Thank you again.

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