

Cardiac Procedures and Interventions

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Summary: Being familiar with patient care after common cardiac procedures is essential in the acute care setting and beyond. Learn about current trends in caring for post-procedural cardiac patients. Included is bonus content on the trending topic of infective endocarditis.

Nursing Implications:

- Continuous cardiac monitoring is still the recommended post-cardiac procedure.
- Proper post-procedural site management can prevent life-threatening complications.
- There are significant differences in the post-procedure care of patients who have radial artery access versus femoral artery access.
- Nursing assessment plays a key role in identifying patients with infective endocarditis.

Key Takeaways:

- Any hospitalized patient can have cardiac complications during the course of their stay; understanding and assessing for these complications may positively affect outcomes.
- Nurses must understand what actually occurs during the procedure(s) in order to provide proper post-procedural care.
- Frequent assessments are essential within the first four hours after a cardiac procedure.
- The nurse is positioned to aid in early assessment of infective endocarditis which may affect patient outcomes.

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References:

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