

Clinical Application and Interpretation of the 12-Lead ECG

Contact Hours: 6.75 CNE

Introduction

12-Lead ECGs are routinely performed in many clinical environments. Often, they are used as screening and monitoring for various conditions. They are frequently performed in the Emergency Room, Critical Care, and other areas of acute care. They are continuously monitored in outpatient units during procedures such as stress testing. During acute events, changes will often be seen on the 12-Lead. These may be easily recognized, or subtle, and require the medical professional to have the knowledge to be able to identify and respond appropriately.



While 12-Lead interpretation can be very complex and “advanced”, the goal of this full-day session is to enable the nurse or technician to perform an interpretation and apply it to the clinical setting. Recognition of normal waves and a “quick and dirty” way to determine axis is presented. Clinical correlation and a systematic approach in the evaluation of rhythms and the 12-Lead is used throughout.

Diagrams are incorporated into the extensive handout along with “Memory Hints” and practice sessions to validate knowledge. In the review of medical conditions, pathology, clinical manifestations, complications, ECG changes, and treatment options are included.

A review of the following is incorporated into this interactive seminar:

- Normal and pathological waveforms
- Axis determination
- Bundle branch blocks
- Fascicular blocks
- Acute coronary syndrome
 - Ischemia, injury, and infarction
 - Associated dysrhythmias
- Pericarditis
- Pericardial effusion and tamponade
- Chamber hypertrophy
- Electrolyte imbalances
- Drug toxicity
- Pulmonary embolism
- Ventricular aneurysm
- Hypothermia
- Cerebrovascular accident



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Recent seminar participants had this to say about “Clinical Application and Interpretation of the 12-Lead ECG”



“The instructor was very knowledgeable and knows how to deliver information, so it is understandable and retainable. I have taken several ECG classes before...you made learning ECGs easy to understand!”

“I have a much better understanding of ECG interpretation and all the information which can be gained by evaluating them. I will now take a closer and systematic look at an ECG as I also turn it over to the provider.”

“Well organized. Helpful, simple phrases to help with recall of information. It is finally nice to understand ECGs and IVCDs.”

“This was an excellent class and instructor! It really helped clarify how to read 12-Leads and I learned lots of new things!! The clinical examples and correlation were excellent!! I can’t wait to go back to work and start looking at 12-Leads!!”

“Well developed course with excellent coverage of material. The instructor was exceptional at explaining concepts and making everything simple to understand and remember.”

“I really enjoyed this class. Will continue to practice BBB and fascicular blocks and using the cheat sheet to aid in interpretation. I plan to take this class again to cement the information I learned today.”

“Not only will I be able to incorporate this into my daily practice, but I will be able to pass my knowledge on to other staff when asked for help with ECGs.”

“Excellent review which was presented in an easily understood manner. I can now decipher between active MI’s, non-STEMI, old MI’s, and bundle branch blocks. I have never had a solid grasp of this until now. Thank you!”



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The faculty and planning committee do not have a conflict of interest related to this program. Participants must attend 80% of the seminar, complete an evaluation form, and be actively engaged to receive 6.75 CNE credit.