

***Anesthesiology Rounds*
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**Transesophageal echocardiography in the ICU and during noncardiac surgery: Part 2
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Objectives:

- To appreciate that transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) has applications and indications during noncardiac surgery and in the ICU.
- To appreciate the unique diagnostic potential of the TEE during noncardiac surgery and in the ICU.

Answer the following questions (only one right answer)

1. In a hemodynamically unstable patient with high filling pressures in whom a subvalvular obstruction of the left ventricle is suspected, it is necessary to:
 - a) Slow down the heart rate
 - b) Start milrinone
 - c) Reduce the precharge
 - d) Use an intra-aortic balloon
2. Right heart failure may occur during which situation?
 - a) With an air embolism during cervical spine surgery in a sitting position
 - b) During fluid resuscitation following hemorrhagic shock
 - c) During a myocardial ischemic episode in vascular surgery
 - d) In the ICU with a patient in septic shock
 - e) All of the above

3. Which statement is true?

- a) Only surgery in a sitting position exposes the patient to the risk of gas emboli
- b) The incidence of fat emboli in orthopedic surgery of the leg is lower than that of gas emboli during laparoscopic surgery
- c) The foramen ovale does not have to be patent for emboli to be observed in the left atrium during leg surgery
- d) Intraoperative thrombotic or gas emboli are not associated with strokes

4. In which of these cases is transesophageal echocardiography least indicated?

- a) Assessment of anastomosis during lung transplantation
- b) Detection of air emboli during neurosurgery in a sitting position
- c) Assessment of the possibility of heart trauma
- d) Assessment of the cardiac impact of pleuropulmonary disease

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