INTRODUCTION TO THE OUTPATIENT PRE-OPERATIVE MEDICAL CONSULTATION AT HMC

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STEPS

- 1. Introduce yourself as a perioperative consultant
- 2. Explore the patient's understanding of surgery
- 3. Obtain a detailed medical history
- 4. Perform a physical examination
- 5. Assess perioperative risks
- 6. Make recommendations and discuss perioperative risks using shared decision making
- 7. Follow-up

STEP ONE: INTRODUCE YOURSELF AS A PERIOPERATIVE CONSULTANT

- As an internist, you have been asked to provide the surgeon with a detailed assessment of perioperative medical risks and help optimizing acute and chronic medical conditions prior to surgery
- 2. Goals of our visit and referral
 - 1. Review patient's medical history and determine current health status
 - Optimize acute and chronic medical conditions prior to surgery
 - 3. Coordinate care with the patient's surgeon, primary care physician, specialists, and anesthesia as needed
 - 4. Co-manage the patient's medical problems after the surgery while s/he is hospitalized

STEP TWO: EXPLORE THE PATIENT'S UNDERSTANDING OF SURGERY

1. Surgical details

- 1. Why is the patient being offered surgery? Indication?
- 2. Did the surgeon describe the procedure?
- 3. What will be done? When will it be?
- 4. What is the expected length of stay in the hospital? What does recovery entail?
- 5. What are the risks of surgery?

2. What are patient's expectations/hopes?

- 1. Will it improve pain, quality of life, halt disease progression, be curative?
- 2. Any functional goals?

STEP THREE: OBTAIN A DETAILED MEDICAL HISTORY

- Attention to any active symptoms that need to be addressed prior to surgery
- 2. Current status of chronic medical conditions
- 3. Medication list, with particular attention to cardiac, pulmonary, and diabetic medications

STEP FOUR: PHYSICAL EXAM

- 1. Routine FULL examination
- 2. Attention to:
 - 1. Cardiac: Murmurs, rhythm, pulses, JVP, edema
 - 2. Pulmonary: Crackles, wheezing, work of breathing
 - 3. Neurologic: Baseline exam, cognition, gait (as able)

STEP FIVE: RISK ASSESSMENT

- 1. Discuss with attending
- 2. Use clinical tools/calculators as appropriate

STEP SIX: RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Further testing prior to surgery
- 2. Changes in or initiation of new medications
- 3. Does surgical delay need to be discussed with surgical team?
- 4. Provide perioperative instructions in note and AVS
 - Clearly outline recommendations for the care of all medical conditions
 - 2. Provide specific information
 - 3. Provide the patient with a list of medication recommendations and anything s/he should do to prepare for surgery

STEP SEVEN: AFTER VISIT WORK

- 1. Discuss care with patient's surgeon, Pre-Anesthesia and/or operative Anesthesia as needed
- Discuss care with patient's PCP and/or specialists as needed
- 3. Follow-up results of ordered diagnostics or review requested records
- 4. Use results/records to further clinical decision making1. Communicate results to the patient
- 5. Co-manage medical issues with the surgical team postoperatively in the hospital