

CODE: N16

Question: Neuro

Type:

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Opening Scenario:

15 yr old for spinal instrumentation and fusion T8 - L4 for scoliosis. (Surgeon and patient also worried about blood loss and requests your advice).

Major points of additional information to be provided to the candidate, e.g., hx, px, labs, x-ray, consults:

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Hx Idiopathic Scoliosis | Lab PFT's Mild restrictive defect |
| | ABG's 7.38 40 70 (room air) |
| | HB 110 |
| SOB on exertion | |
| Non smoker | |
| Px 65° scoliosis | |
| No signs of pulm hypertension (if asks) | |

Major decision points (major decision points or options which must be recognized by the candidate)

- (1) Assessment of patient with scoliosis
- (2) Methods and hazards ↓ blood loss (cell saver, induced hypotension)
- (3) Predicted intraop problems (prone, blood loss, temperature)
- (4) Monitoring spinal cord function intraop

Any followup information required to lead to the end of the question

Intraop BP 60/40 HR 130

- diff diagnosis esp.: (a) blood loss (oozy)
(b) pneumothorax (and the ↑ difficulty in its diagnosis when prone)

Critical features to be included i.e. the *must* have to pass the question or to be considered *completely unacceptable*

- 1) Problems with scoliosis
- 2) Considerations for major spinal surgery

Ref: RCEXAMAT.FORM.hmc, 95

USED:

Last revision: 95/10