

Referring patients for cardiopulmonary exercising testing in HPB surgery; does it translate to postoperative course?

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Background

Cardiopulmonary exercising (CPEX) can be used to give an objective assessment or pre-operative fitness

Consultant led pre-assessment clinic for all hepatopancreatobiliary surgery

Only those patients assessed to have reduced pre-operative fitness undergo CPEX testing.

Methods

1. All patients who underwent elective major hepatopancreaticobiliary surgery at the Welsh Specialist Centre over a 15 month period were included
2. We retrospectively reviewed the post-operative outcomes of patients who underwent surgery following a CPEX test compared with those who did not.

Key Points

- Those patients perceived to have reduced pre-operative fitness, were at higher risk of developing an AKI.
- An unexpected benefit of our consultant pre-assessment clinic is identifying these high risk patients
- Highlighting these patients pre-operatively can minimise postoperative morbidity.

	CPEX testing performed	CPEX testing not performed	P value
Number of patients	7	93	NA
LOS (median [IQR])	23 [13.5-27.5]	14 [11-23]	0.349
ICU LOS (median [IQR])	5 [3.5-6]	4 [3-6]	0.129
AKI incidence (number [%])	4 [57]	12 [13]	0.011

Clinical Impact

Postoperative AKI is not a benign condition and is associated with long term morbidity.