

Echocardiography

Transthoracic Echocardiogram (TTE)

- first diagnostic test recommended for suspected IE (infective endocarditis)
- 75% sensitivity (rules out)
- almost 100% specificity (rules in)

Conclusions

- TTE and TEE are complimentary
 - both studies useful in most patients
- TTE --> indicated initially when there is low suspicion for IE based on Modified Duke criteria
- TEE--> indicated initially when there is a moderate to high probability based on Modified Duke criteria

Transesophageal Echocardiogram (TEE)

- sensitivity > 90%
- Superior as compared to TTE to diagnose cardiac complications
- Indications for TEE
 - TTE inconclusive
 - TTE negative but a high index of suspicion for IE
 - e.g. *S. aureus* bacteremia
 - TTE + with valve vegetation
 - Patient has a prior h/o IE
 - Patient with prosthetic heart valve
- Indications to forgo TTE and proceed to TEE in the following situations:
 - Prior valvular abnormality
 - Obesity
 - Chest wall abnormality
 - Patient requires mechanical ventilation