

Perioperative cardiovascular events: Prevention, recognition, and treatment

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Cardiovascular disease and cancer are the major causes of death worldwide. Cardiovascular deaths after surgery in patients over age 45 occur in 1% or more, amounting to more than 1 million worldwide annually. Risk factors for these events include known cardiovascular and/or cerebrovascular disease, diabetes, hypertension, and smoking. At certain levels of risk, the procedural benefit to lifestyle or survival may be inadequate and procedural modifications or avoidance may be appropriate. The single most useful test to determine perioperative risk is probably the immediate postoperative troponin. Investigation to prevent and treat perioperative myocardial infarction and stroke is in progress.

Biography

Michael Jacka is a critical care physician at the University of Alberta, having qualified as an M.D. at Queens' University in 1988. He also holds an M.Sc. in Community Health from the University of Toronto (1999) and an MBA from Cornell (2012).

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