

# Operative risk in elderly patients with cardiovascular dysfunction.

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# Disclosure

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No disclosures related to this talk



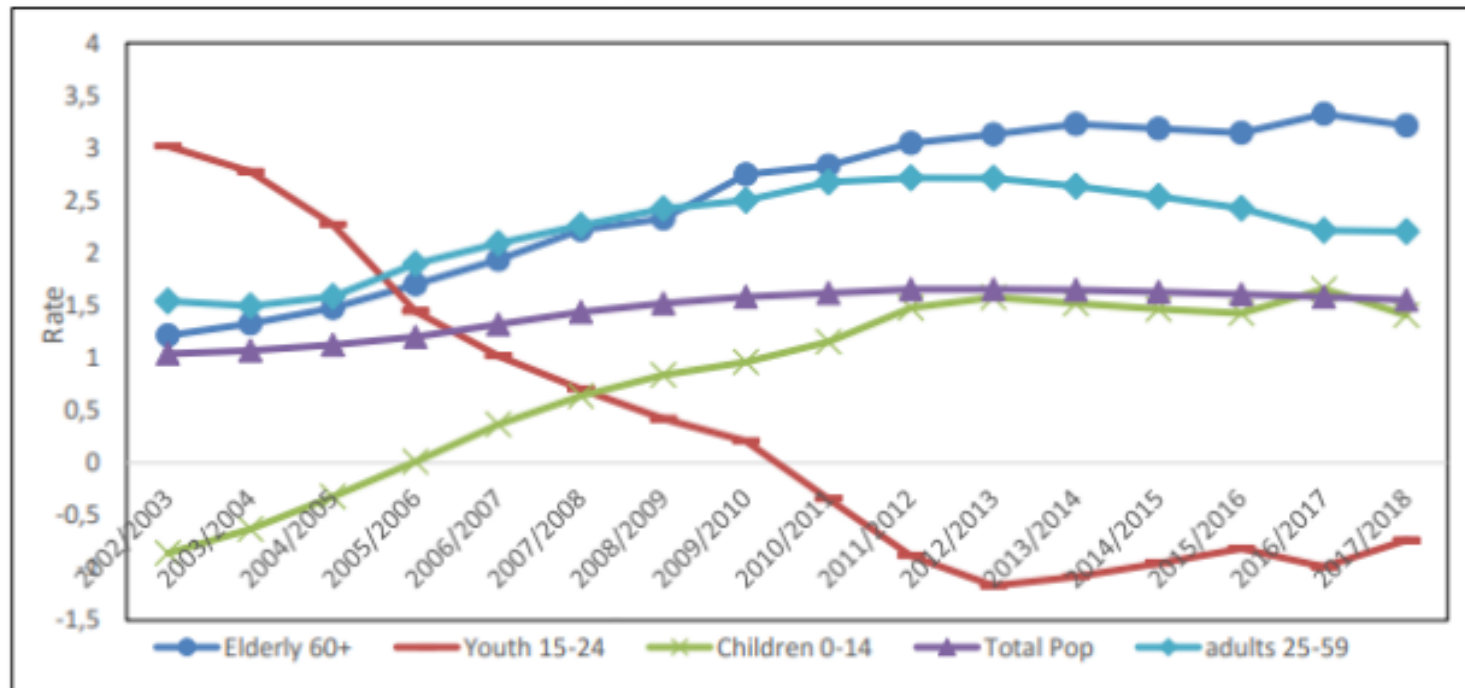
# Overview

- The Cardiovascular system and the aging Patient
- Clinical and surgical risk factors
- Bio-markers
- Perioperative complications — MACE & MINS
- Risk Reduction Strategies
- Conclusion



# Background

- 56,5 million South Africans
- Growing elderly population  $\geq 60$  years estimated at 8,1 % in 2017
- 4,6 million people in SA are estimated to be over the age of 60



# Background

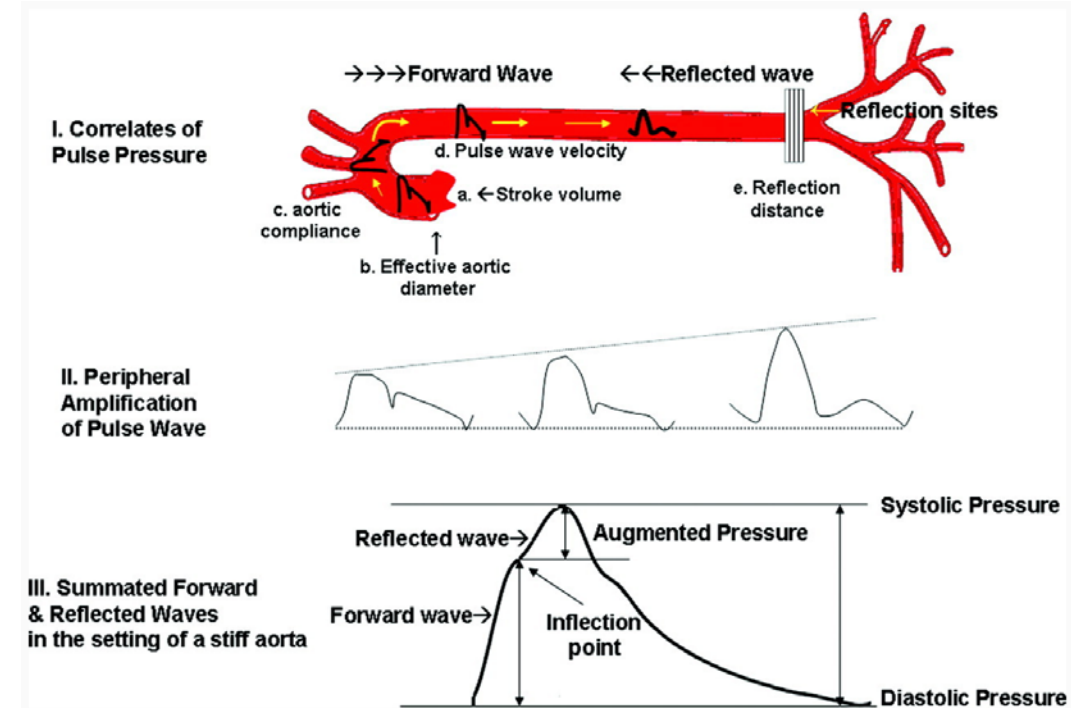
- Older patients are more frail, have multiple comorbidities, and exhibit more severe Coronary Artery Disease(CAD).
- Peri operative Myocardial Infarction(PMI) & Myocardial Injury after Non cardiac Surgery(MINS) is nearly doubled in patients older than 70 years
- Increased risk of procedure-related complications
- Reduced tolerance to operative complications like bleeding & infection
- Age is an independent predictor of cardiac morbidity and mortality



# Cardiovascular Changes in the elderly

## Systolic hypertension and widened pulse pressure

- Arterial stiffness due to  $\uparrow$  collagen &  $\downarrow$  elastin vascular content
- Arteriosclerosis – thickening & hardening of arterial walls
- Aortic pulse wave velocity increases
- Increased systolic pressure & reduced diastolic pressure
- Left ventricular hypertrophy
- Diastolic dysfunction

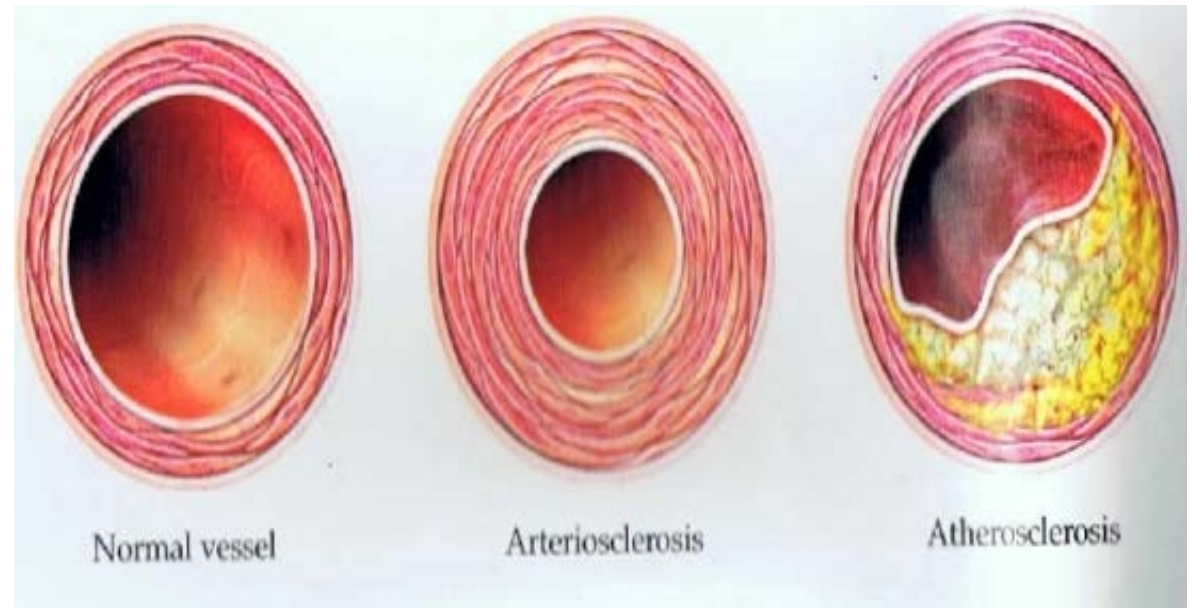


# Cardiovascular Changes in the elderly

- **Atherosclerosis vs Arteriosclerosis**

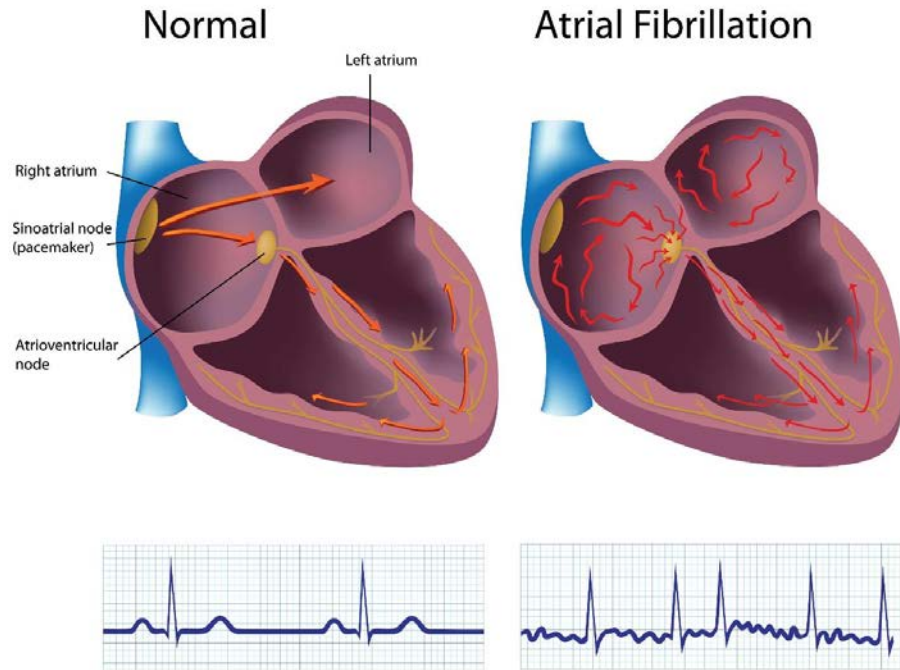
- The aging process is associated with a chronic low-grade inflammation that predisposes the vasculature to

- Atherosclerosis and
- Endothelial dysfunction.



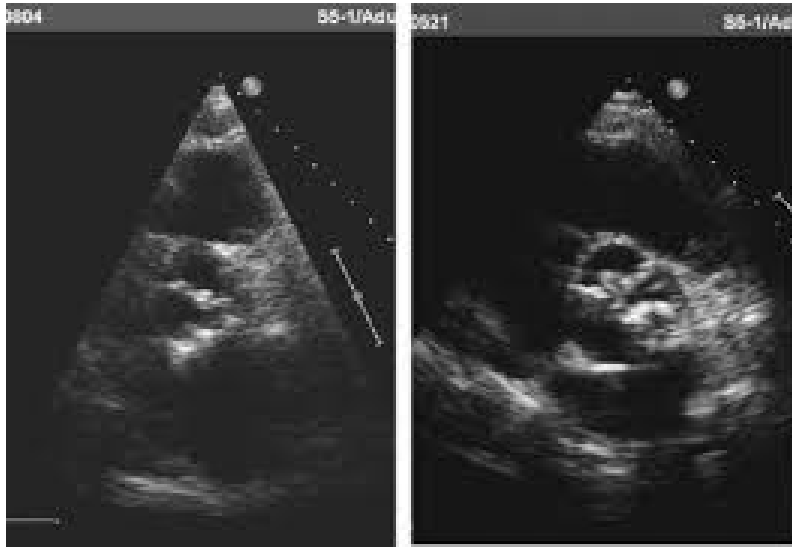
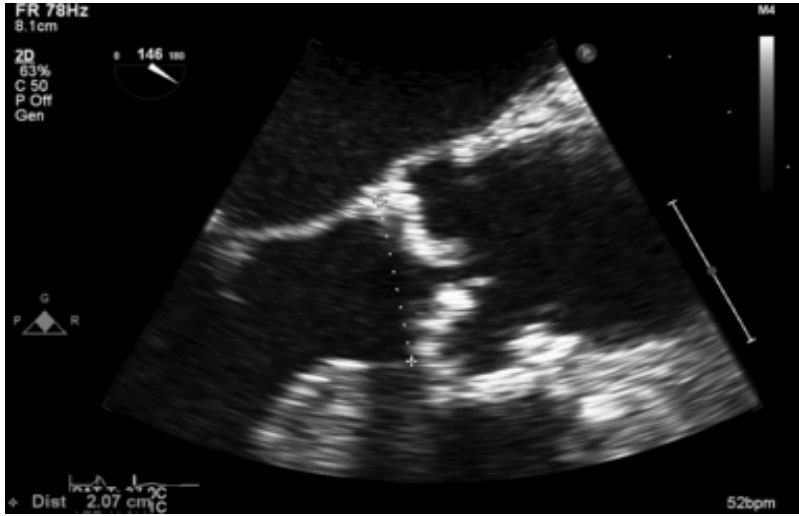


# Atrial Fibrillation in the elderly

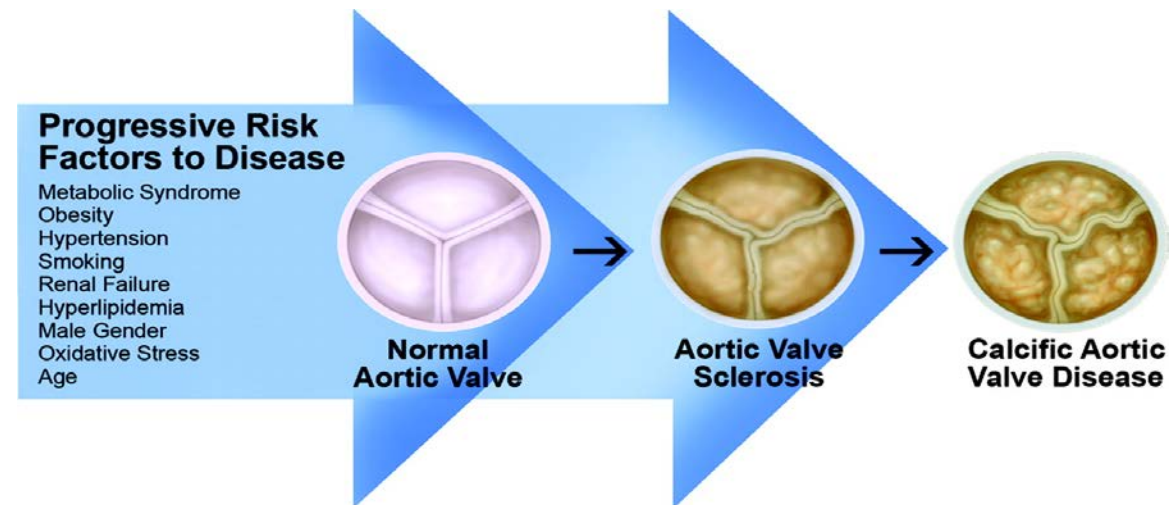


- Pacemaker cells are progressively lost with advancing age
- **Sick sinus syndrome.**
- This makes **atrial fibrillation** the default rhythm for the elderly.
- **Heart block** and **ventricular ectopy**

# Aortic Valve Sclerosis and Stenosis



- Prevalence of valvular heart disease (VHD) increases with age
- Degenerative valve disease thought to be the most common VHD in the elderly.
- **Aortic valve (AV) sclerosis** is the most common valvular abnormality associated with increased aging



# Pre-Operative Cardiac Risk Assessment

- Clinical risk indices
  - clinical risk factors,
  - surgery-specific risk
  - Exercise capacity
- Cardiac Stress Testing
- Cardiac Bio-markers

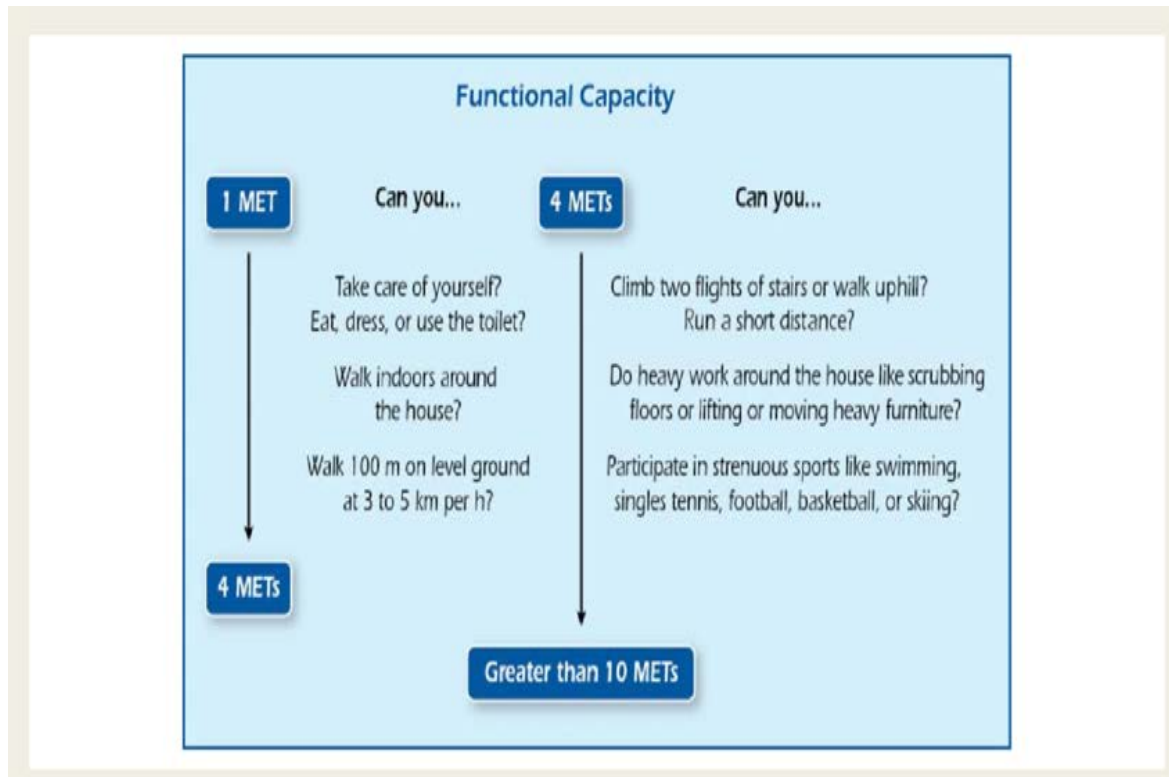
# Functional Capacity

- Exercise tolerance reflects quality of biological age
- One of the most important predictors of perioperative outcome in the elderly surgical patient.
- Expressed in metabolic equivalents (METs)
- Oxygen consumption ( $Vo_2$ ) approximately  $3.5 \text{ ml.kg}^{-1}.\text{min}^{-1}$ .



# Functional Capacity

- Patients unable to perform **> 4 METS** during most normal daily activities have increased perioperative short-term and long-term cardiac risk.



- **excellent** (>10 METS)
- **good** (7-10 METs)
- **moderate** (4-6 METs)
- **poor** (< 4 METs) or
- **unknown**

# Cardiac Stress Testing

- Exercise or pharmacological (dobutamine or dipyridamole)
- Combines information on
  - LV function at rest,
  - heart valve abnormalities, and the
  - presence and extent of stress-inducible ischaemia
- high negative predictive value
- Stress testing is recommended before high-risk surgery, if
  - more than two clinical risk factors and
  - poor functional capacity (<4 METs)
- Testing should only be performed if its results might influence perioperative management.



# Clinical Risk Indices

## Revised **C**ardiac **R**isk **I**ndex(RCRI)

developed by Lee et al in 1999

Widely & most commonly used/recommended

Six predictors of risk

Cardiac morbidity and death increase with higher scores

## **M**ycocardial **I**nfraction and **C**ardiac **A**rrest(MICA) Risk Calculator, 2011

Gupta et al, 2007 NSQIP database

>250 hospitals, 211 410 patients

Five (5) predictors of risk

Its predictive value exceeds that of the RCRI

### Clinical Risk Indices

## ACS NSQIP risk calculator, 2013

A web-based tool consisting of 21 patient-related factors  
eight surgical procedures



## American Society of Anesthesiologists(ASA) Functional Class

# Revised Cardiac Risk Index, Lee et al, 1999

Risk Factors	Points
History of ischemic heart disease	1
High-risk type of surgery	1
History of congestive heart failure	1
History of cerebrovascular disease	1
Preoperative treatment with insulin	1
Preoperative serum creatinine >2.0 mg/dL	1

## RISK OF MAJOR CARDIAC EVENT

<u>Points</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Risk</u>
0	I	0.4%
1	II	0.9%
2	III	6.6%
3 or more	IV	11%

### Major

Recent myocardial infarction (<30d)  
 Unstable or severe angina  
 Decompensated congestive heart failure  
 High-grade atrioventricular block  
 Symptomatic ventricular arrhythmias in the presence of underlying heart disease  
 Supraventricular arrhythmias with uncontrolled ventricular rate  
 Severe valvular disease

### Intermediate

Mild angina pectoris  
 Prior myocardial infarction by history or pathological Q waves  
 Compensated or prior congestive heart failure  
 Diabetes mellitus

### Minor

Advanced age  
 Abnormal ECG  
 Rhythm other than sinus  
 Low functional capacity  
 History of stroke  
 Uncontrolled systemic hypertension

# National Surgical Quality Improvement Program(NSQIP)

- Developed to assess the risk of intraoperative/postoperative myocardial infarction or cardiac arrest,
- Using the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (NSQIP) database

# Myocardial Infarction or Cardiac Arrest risk Prediction Calculator(MICA)

## Cardiovascular Surgery

### Development and Validation of a Risk Calculator for Prediction of Cardiac Risk After Surgery

Prateek K. Gupta, MD; Himani Gupta, MD; Abhishek Sundaram, MBBS, MPH; Manu Kaushik, MD;  
Xiang Fang, PhD; Weldon J. Miller, MS; Dennis J. Esterbrooks, MD; Claire B. Hunter, MD;  
Iraklis I. Pipinos, MD; Jason M. Johanning, MD; Thomas G. Lynch, MD; R. Armour Forse, MD, PhD;  
Syed M. Mohiuddin, MD; Aryan N. Mooss, MD

- Type of surgery
- Functional status
- Abnormal creatinine
- American Society of anaesthesiologists Class
- Increasing age
- The MICA risk calculator is available at [www.surgicalriskcalculator.com](http://www.surgicalriskcalculator.com)

# Guidelines



**Canadian Cardiovascular  
Society Guidelines, 2017**



**ACC/AHA, 2014**



**European Society of Cardiology  
ESC/ESA, 2014**

# Cardiac biomarkers

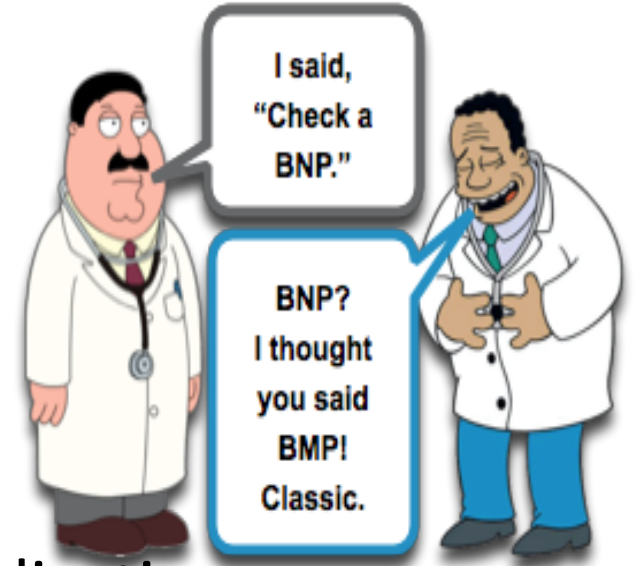
- Natriuretic Peptides
  - Brain natriuretic peptides (BNPs) and
  - N-terminal fragment of proBNP (NT-proBNP)
- Highly-sensitive(hs) Troponin T





# Cardiac Biomarkers —BNP/NT-proBMP

- Natriuretic Peptides(NP)
  - Brain Natriuretic Peptide(BNP)
  - N-terminal of proBNP( NT-proBNP)
- Released from cardiomyocytes in response to
  - ischemia
  - myocardial stretch, etc
- Thresholds ass. with increased cardiovascular complications
  - BMP > 92 ng/ml
  - NT-proBNP > 300 ng/ml
- When added to clinical risk indices, BNP & pro-BNP increase the predictive ability for mortality, MI & heart failure, [Rodseth et al \(1\)](#)

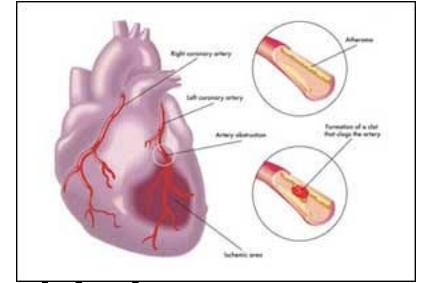


# **The Predictive Ability of Pre-Operative B-Type Natriuretic Peptide in Vascular Patients for Major Adverse Cardiac Events**

*An Individual Patient Data Meta-Analysis*

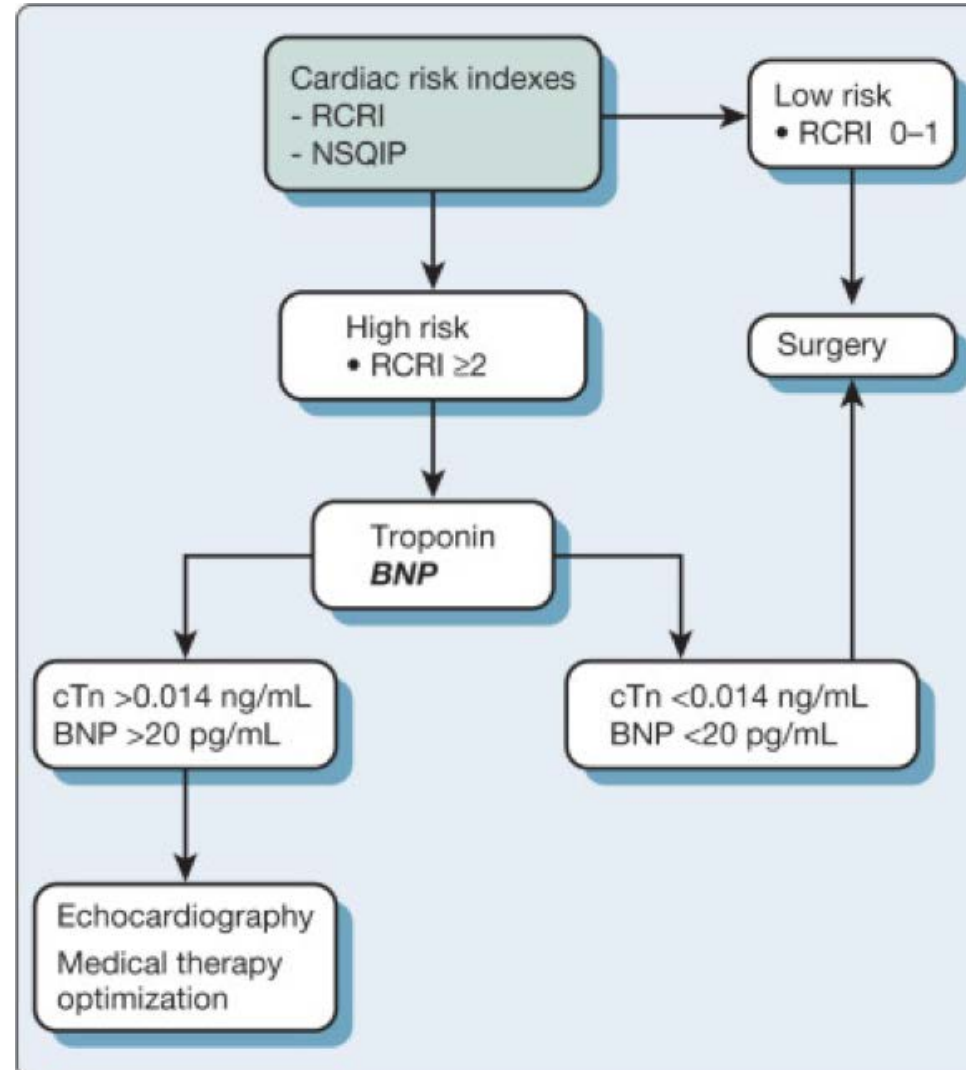
- If the RCRI is  $\geq 1$ , the patient's age is  $\geq 65$  with significant cardiac disease, the next step is to measure the patient's NT-ProBNP or BNP
- If the **NT-ProBNP** is  $\geq 300$  ng/l or **BNP** is  $\geq 92$  ng/l, then there should be an EKG ordered and troponins should be measured daily for 48-72 hours.

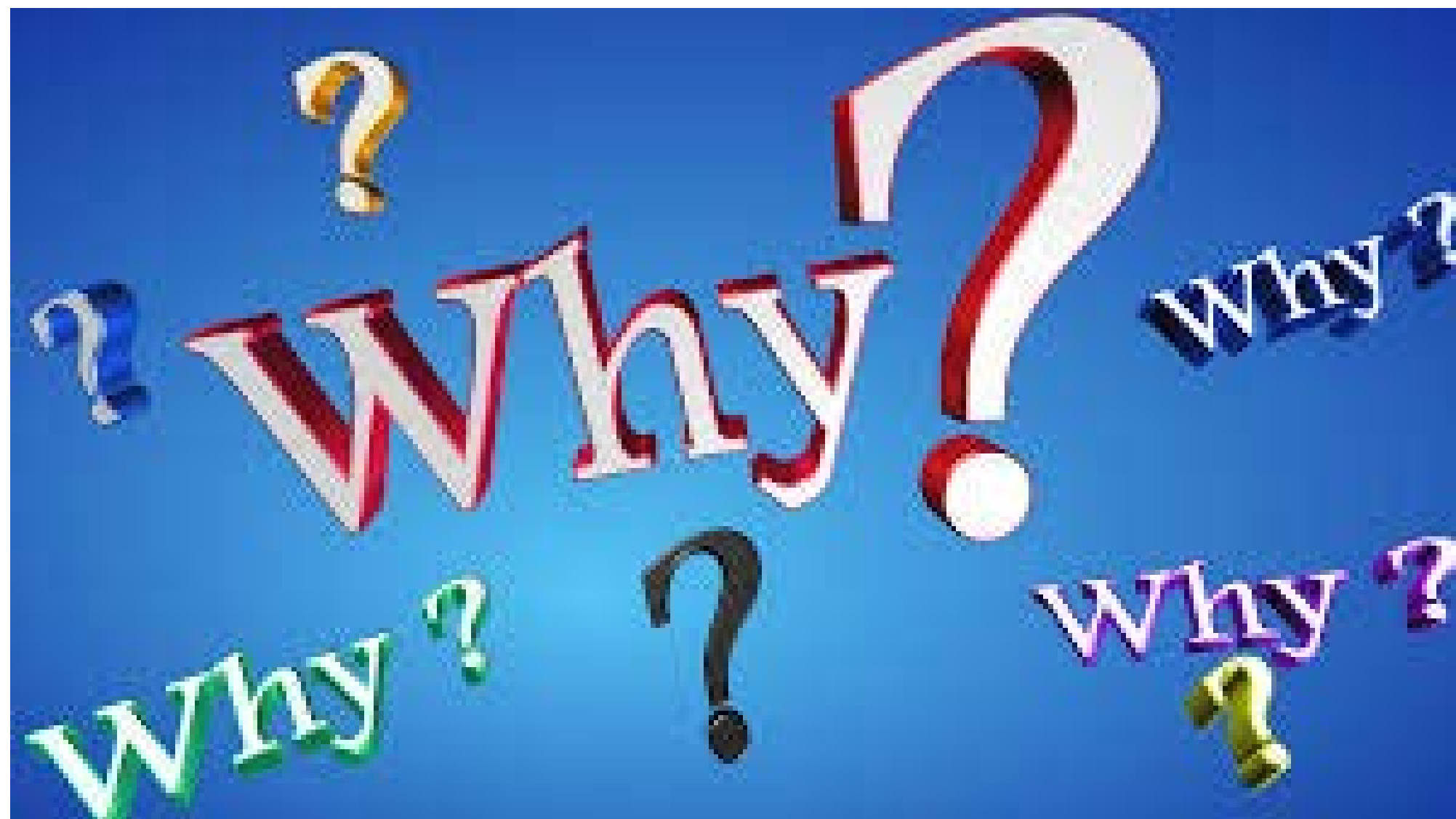
# Cardiac Bio-makers – hs Troponin T



- Increased levels of TnT indicate the presence of myocardial injury
- Ability to identify patients with PMI even in the absence of symptoms or ECG changes
- high sensitivity for detection of small amounts of myocardial necrosis
- Peak levels  $> 0.03$  ng/ml are diagnostic of myocardial injury after non-cardiac surgery (MINS) — increased 30 day mortality

# Preoperative Risk Stratification, BNP, cTnT





# Cardiac Morbidity and Mobility

- MACE – Major adverse cardiac events
  - **Non-fatal Perioperative Myocardial Infarction(PMI)**
  - **Myocardial Injury after Non cardiac Surgery(MINS)**
  - Congestive cardiac failure
  - Cerebrovascular accident
  - Cardiac Death



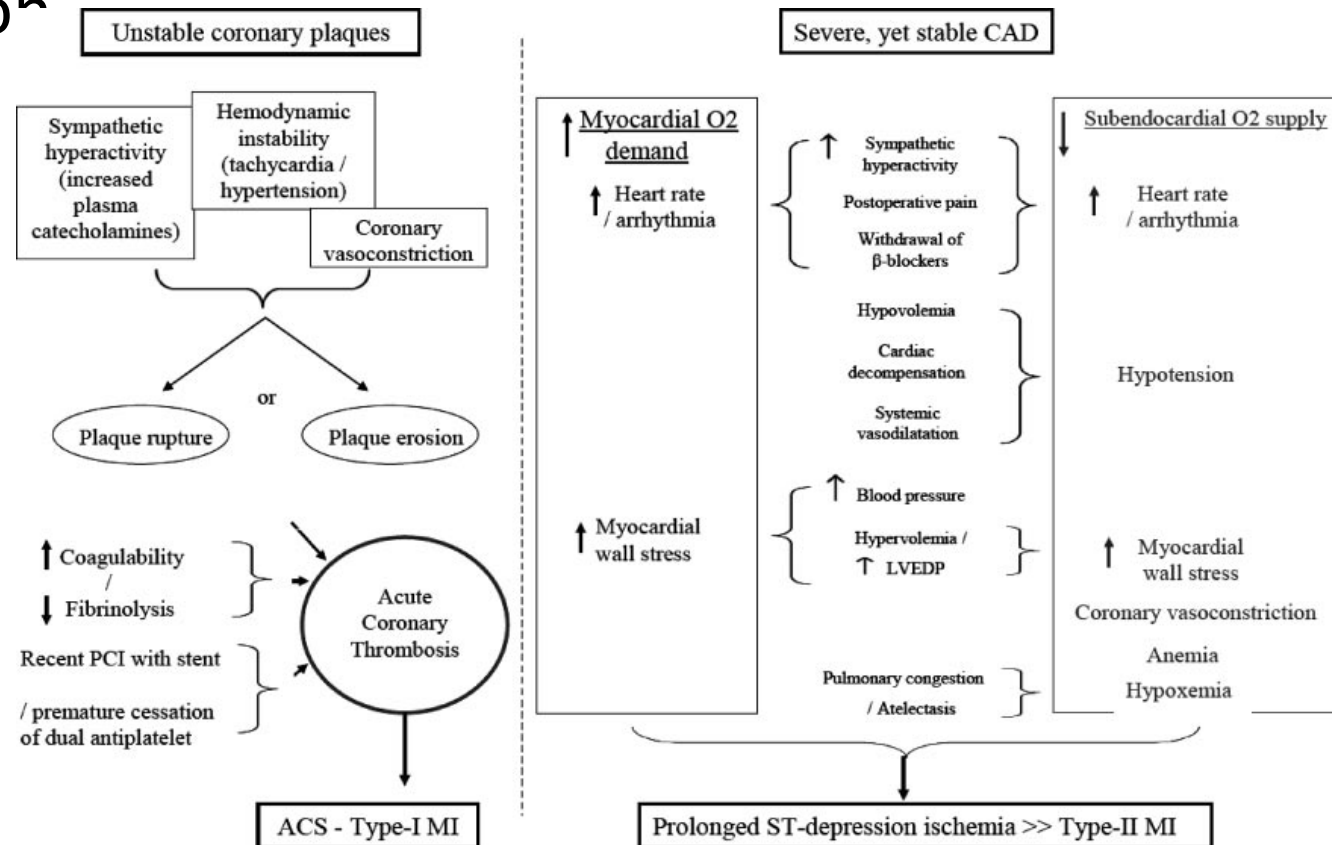
MINS – myocardial injury after non-cardiac surgery

- an elevation of postoperative troponin with an ischemic origin without other criteria for myocardial infarction

# Perioperative Myocardial Infarction(PMI)

- Myocardial Oxygen Supply-Demand Imbalance
- Stable coronary plaque
- Prolonged ST-segment depression~

- Tachycardia & Hypertension
- Hypotention
- Pain
- Anemia
- Hypoxaemia
- Hypercoaguability



# Risk Reduction Strategies

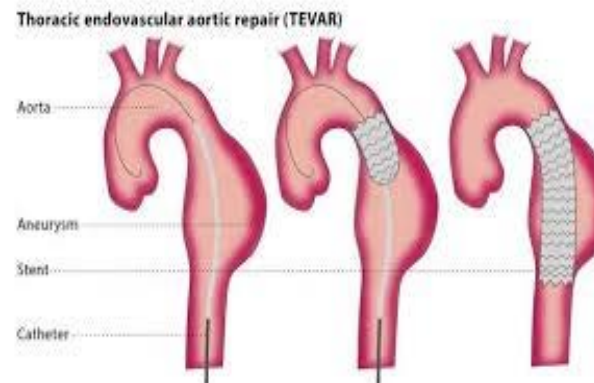
## Operative

- Open/operative/invasive



## Minimally invasive

- Endoscopic
- Laparoscopic
- Thoracoscopic
- Endovascular



# Risk Reduction Strategies

## **$\beta$ -Blockers**

Continuation of beta-blockers peri-operatively  
in patients on long-term beta-blocker therapy

Class I recommendation

## **Statins**

Patients already on statin therapy long term  
should continue statin therapy  
perioperatively

Class I recommendation

## **Medical Optimization**

## **Aspirin**

ASA should be stopped a minimum of 3 days  
(median 7) before surgery.

## **Angiotensin Converting Enzyme(ACE)- Inhibitors**

Should be stopped 24 hrs prior to surgery  
reduce risk of intraoperative hypotension  
which is an independent intraoperative  
predictor for MACE

# Risk Reduction Strategies

## **$\beta$ -Blockers**

Continuation of beta-blockers peri-operatively in patients on long-term beta-blocker therapy

Class I recommendation

Avoid hypotension & bradycardia

Start 30 days pre-op(ideally)

Heart rate 60 – 70 beats/min

## **Statins**

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Class I recommendation

### **Medical Optimization**

## **Aspirin**

ASA should be stopped a minimum of 3

## **Angiotensin Converting Enzyme(ACE)-Inhibitors**

Should be stopped 24 hrs prior to

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## **Angiotensin Converting Enzyme(ACE)-Inhibitors**

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# Risk Reduction Strategies

- Avoid/treat:

- Hypotension

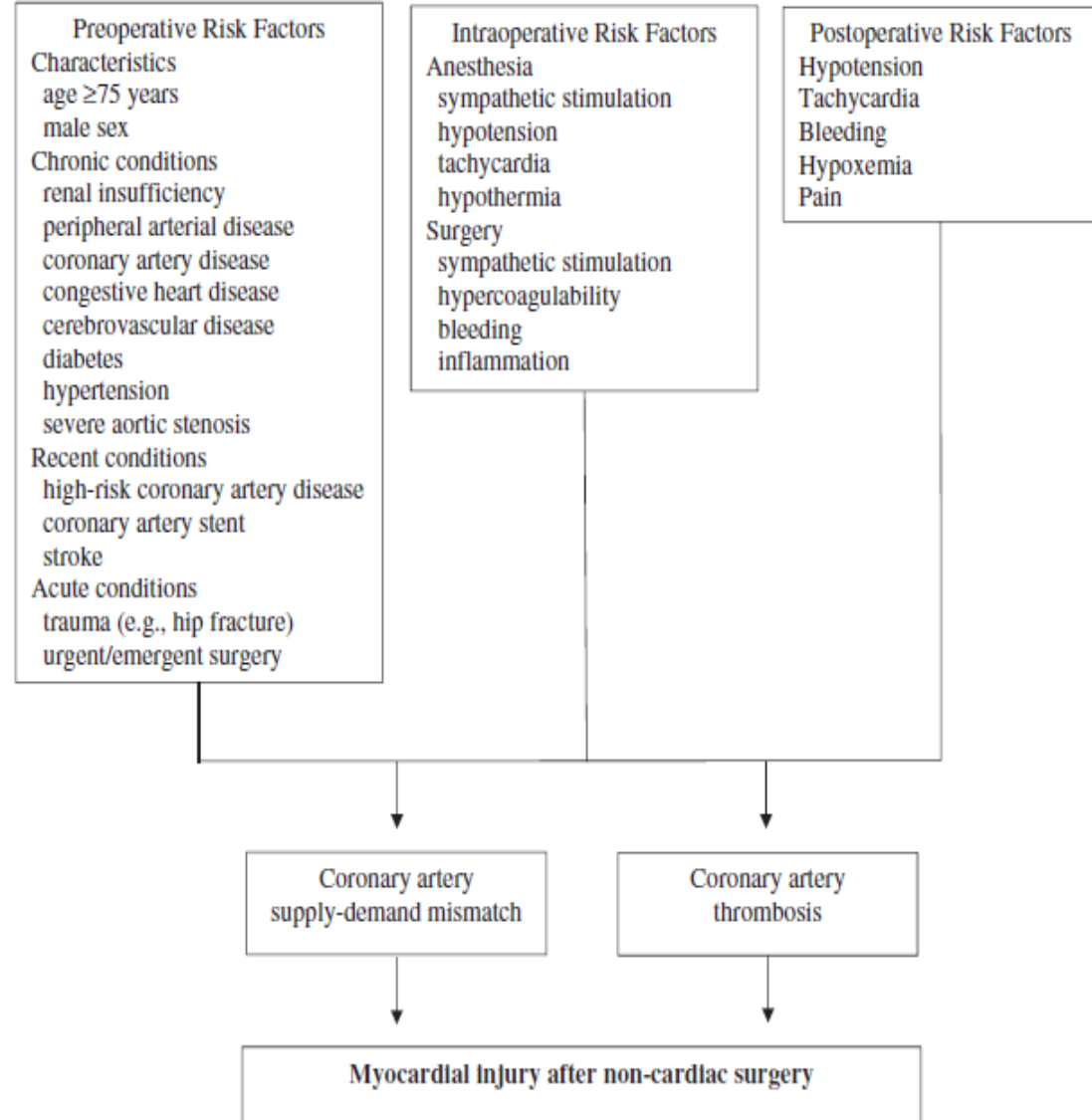
- Tachycardia

- Bleeding

- Hypothermia

- Pain

- Hypoxaemia



# Conclusion



- Elderly patients tend to accumulate more severe cormorbidities
- Age is an important risk predictor for major cardiac adverse outcomes
- Functionally independent patients have less risk for complications
- Clinical risk indices are available, but have their limitations
- Biomarkers increase the predictive ability of clinical risk indices, but come with a cost