



## Benefits and Harms of Routine Preoperative Testing: Comparative Effectiveness: Comparative Effectiveness Review Number 130

By U. S. Department of Health and Human Services

CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 190 pages. Dimensions: 11.0in. x 8.5in. x 0.4in.Traditionally, preoperative testing has been part of the preoperative care process to inform patient selection by determining fitness for anesthesia and identifying patients at high risk for perioperative complications. The American Society of Anesthesiologists defines routine preoperative tests as those done in the absence of any specific clinical indication or purpose; they typically include a panel of blood tests, urine tests, chest radiography, and electrocardiogram. These tests are performed to find latent abnormalities, such as anemia or silent heart disease, that could impact how, when, or whether the planned surgical procedure and concomitant anesthesia are performed. Many hospitals have instituted protocols to perform a series of laboratory tests prior to any operative procedure under the assumption that this information will enhance safety for surgical patients and reduce liability for adverse events. During the past three decades, routine preoperative testing has been challenged by several academic publications with concerns about the sizable cost of testing, overtesting, the consequences of false-positive tests, and the unknown benefit to patients. In addition to increasing the cost of surgical care, nonselective preoperative testing...

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