



ECG of an 85-year-old woman prior to hip replacement surgery. She had no cardiac symptoms and was on no cardiac medication. The anaesthetist brings you the ECG and asks your advice.

### QUESTION 1: Which ONE of the following best describes this ECG:

- Trifascicular block.
- Right bundle branch block, left axis deviation, old lateral myocardial infarct.
- RBBB with left anterior fascicular block and prolonged PR interval.
- RBBB with pre-excitation.
- Accelerated idioventricular rhythm.

### QUESTION 2: Which of the following would you advise:

- Defer surgery and perform coronary angiography.
- Defer surgery and implant a permanent pacemaker.
- Insert a temporary pacemaker and proceed with surgery thereafter.
- Suggest proceeding with surgery, with appropriate monitoring and precautions.

Please analyse the ECG carefully and commit yourself to an answer before checking the explanation.

**ANSWER** on page 640