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QUESTION 1

What is the maximum suction time for a patient with a tracheostomy?

- A. 5 seconds
- B. 10 seconds
- C. 30 seconds
- D. 1 minute

Correct Answer: B

The nurse would want to limit suctioning to 10 seconds through a tracheostomy. Hypoxemia can be caused by prolonged suctioning and will stimulate the pacemaker cells in the heart. This could lead to a vasovagal response, which will cause bradycardia. The patient will need to be preoxygenated prior to suctioning.

QUESTION 2

You are preparing the assignment for the day. You have one licensed practical nurse (LPN) and one unlicensed assistive staff member. Which of the following assignments would you not want to make?

- A. LPN to reinforce discharge instruction with a patient
- B. Unlicensed personnel to take vital signs and to document and report any changes
- C. Unlicensed personnel to assess effectiveness of pain medication
- D. LPN to remove dressing from an abdominal wound on a postoperative patient

Correct Answer: C

The unlicensed personnel should not be assigned to assess the effectiveness of pain medication; it is the responsibility of the RN to assess. LPNs can perform dressing changes and reinforce discharge instructions. Unlicensed personnel can take vital signs and document and report any changes.

QUESTION 3

The older patient that you have been assigned to is having difficulty distinguishing between hot and cold temperatures. Alteration of what gland activity would lead to this problem?

- A. Parotid
- B. Thymus
- C. Pineal
- D. Sweat

Correct Answer: D

Alterations in the sweat gland would lead to the patient having trouble distinguishing between hot and cold temperatures. The skin is important in protection, sensory reception homeostasis and temperature regulation. The parotid glands are important in the drainage of saliva. Melatonin biosynthesis occurs in the pineal gland, and immunological roles throughout the body are affected by the thymus gland.

QUESTION 4

You are caring for a patient who complains of sexual dysfunction. The patient was admitted for alcohol dependence. What education should you provide this patient on sexual dysfunction and alcohol abuse?

- A. Alcohol abuse increases desire and performance ability.
- B. Alcohol abuse leads to headaches and too-tired syndrome.
- C. Alcohol abuse leads to hyperarousal and premature ejaculation.
- D. Alcohol abuse decreases desire and ability to perform.

Correct Answer: D

Alcohol abuse leads to decreased desire for sex and decreased ability to perform. The most common forms of sexual dysfunction with alcohol abuse are decreased pleasure, decreased ability to perform, decreased sexual arousal and anxiety about performance.

QUESTION 5

Which of the following symptoms would require the nurses immediate attention if the patient had bipolar affective disorder?

- A. Outlandish behaviors and inappropriate dress
- B. Grandiose delusions of being a royal descendent of King Arthur
- C. Nonstop physical activity and poor nutritional intake
- D. Constant, incessant talking that includes sexual innuendoes and teasing the staff

Correct Answer: C

The nurse would need to give her immediate attention to the bipolar patient with nonstop physical activity and poor nutritional intake. The patient with bipolar affective disorder has moments of mania, which are characterized by euphoria, hyperactivity, excitement and excessive energy. These patients would have a difficult time completing a single train of thought. The behavior of the patient represents a problem and needs to be addressed immediately before it escalates.