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QUESTION 1

You are caring for an unconscious patient who has had an arterial blood gas drawn. The results reveal a pH of 7.30, low bicarbonate, a normal carbon dioxide level, normal oxygen level and an elevated potassium level. What would the diagnosis be for this patient based on the laboratory results?

- A. Metabolic acidosis
- B. Respiratory acidosis
- C. Combined respiratory and metabolic acidosis
- D. Overcompensated respiratory acidosis

Correct Answer: A

This patient is in metabolic acidosis. With acidosis, the pH is always low. Low pH with low bicarbonate points to metabolic acidosis.

QUESTION 2

What is the proper technique for opening the airway on a trauma patient?

- A. Head tilt-chin lift
- B. Flexed position
- C. Modified head tilt-chin lift
- D. Jaw thrust maneuver

Correct Answer: D

To open the airway of any patient that might have a neck injury the nurse would perform a jaw thrust maneuver. All of the other options do not protect the neck from further injury.

QUESTION 3

What is the most appropriate nursing intervention if your patient's heart rate drops during suctioning?

- A. Continue to suction.
- B. Limit suctioning to 15 seconds.
- C. Stop and reoxygenate the patient.
- D. Notify the physician.

Correct Answer: C

If the patient's heart rate drops during suctioning, the nurse should stop and reoxygenate the patient before continuing

suctioning. The nurse should monitor the patient closely during suctioning for any adverse side effects. If any side effects occur, the patient should be reoxygenated.

QUESTION 4

You are caring for a child with respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). You are preparing to give the child ribavirin (Virazole). Which route is most appropriate for administering this medication?

- A. Subcutaneous
- B. Intramuscular
- C. Oxygen tent
- D. Oral

Correct Answer: C

An oxygen tent is the most appropriate route of administration for ribavirin (Virazole). This is an antiviral medication used mainly in children with severe RSV. It can also be administered through a hood or face mask.

QUESTION 5

Which of the following would not encourage effective communication between a dying patient and his family?

- A. Discussing feelings openly
- B. Making decisions for the family and patient
- C. Assisting family and patient in performing spiritual practices
- D. Acceptance when family and patient express anger

Correct Answer: B

Making decisions for the family and patient would not encourage them to have effective communication. It is important to encourage the patient and the family to express their feeling and anger if they need to. Spiritual practices are also a very important part of a patient and family's dying process.

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