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QUESTION 1

You are caring for a patient who has been assaulted. The patient is agitated, trembling, and hyperventilating.

What would be the priority nursing intervention?

- A. Encourage the patient to discuss the assault.
- B. Place the patient in a quiet room alone.
- C. Remain with the patient.
- D. Teach relaxation techniques.

Correct Answer: C

Remain with the patient when they are in a severe state of anxiety. Encouraging the patient to discuss the assault will only increase the anxiety. The patient would not be able to learn relaxation techniques while in a state of severe anxiety.

QUESTION 2

You are caring for a patient who has been sexually assaulted. The patient has become quiet and calm. What defense mechanism does this indicate to the nurse?

- A. Denial
- B. Projection
- C. Rationalization
- D. Intellectualization

Correct Answer: A

The defense mechanism that the patient is displaying is denial. Denial is a way for the patient to refuse to admit to a painful. The other three defense mechanisms do not apply in this situation.

QUESTION 3

You are caring for the child who has had a tonsillectomy. The physician has written postoperative orders. Which of the following orders would the nurse question?

- A. Clear, cool liquids when awake
- B. No milk or milk products
- C. Monitor for bleeding

D. Suction every 2 hours

Correct Answer: D

You would not want to suction a patient who just had a tonsillectomy. Suction equipment should be available at bedside in case of airway obstruction. Otherwise, a patient would not be suctioned due to the risk of trauma to the oropharynx. All other orders listed are appropriate for this patient.

QUESTION 4

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 5

What type of eye drops would be ordered for the patient who is being prepared for cataract surgery?

- A. Osmotic diuretic
- B. Miotic agent
- C. Mydriatic medication
- D. Thiazide diuretic

Correct Answer: C

A mydriatic medication would be ordered for the patient who is being prepared for cataract surgery. This will produce mydriasis and dilation of the pupil. It will also constrict blood vessels.

QUESTION 6

You are caring for a patient with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease who has come in with respiratory distress. The patient takes theophylline (Theo-Dur). A therapeutic level is drawn on the patient. You would know the patient needs to be educated on complying with medication if the therapeutic is what?

- A. 10 mcg/mL

- B. 12 mcg/mL
- C. 15 mcg/mL
- D. 18 mcg/mL

Correct Answer: A

The patient will need further education on the necessity of taking medications if the theophylline level is 10 mcg/mL. The therapeutic range is 10 to 20 mcg/mL. If the level is low, the patient will experience frequent exacerbations of the disease.

QUESTION 7

You are caring for patient who has a burn to the knee. The patient has just completed an autograft and grafting to the burn site. Which of the following orders prescribed is appropriate for this patient?

- A. Immobilization of the affected extremity
- B. Out of bed
- C. Placing the affected extremity in a dependent position
- D. Bathroom privileges

Correct Answer: A

The physician would order for the affected extremity to be immobilized. The autograft being placed over the joint will require the patient to keep it immobilized for three to seven days while the graft adheres.

QUESTION 8

You are completing a hearing screening on a patient. You note that the sound lateralizes to the patient's left ear during a Weber test. What does this finding indicate?

- A. A normal finding
- B. Conductive hearing loss in the right ear
- C. Sensorineural or conductive loss
- D. Presence of nystagmus

Correct Answer: C

This test indicates sensorineural or conductive loss in the right ear. The Weber test is done by placing a vibrating tuning fork at the middle of the forehead. The patient should hear sound by bone conduction equally in both ears; if not, then the patient has hearing loss in the ear that did not hear the sound.

QUESTION 9

You receive an order for 1000 mL of normal saline over 12 hours. The drop factor is 15 drops per 1 mL. You prepare to set the flow rate at how many drops per minute?

- A. 15 drops a minute
- B. 17 drops a minute
- C. 21 drops a minute
- D. 23 drops a minute

Correct Answer: C

The drop rate is 21 drops a minute.

QUESTION 10

What clinical manifestations would you see if your patient had cataracts?

- A. Eye pain
- B. Floating spots
- C. Blurred vision
- D. Diplopia

Correct Answer: C

Blurred vision is a clinical manifestation of cataracts. The patient may also exhibit decreased color perception.

All other signs are not signs of cataracts.

QUESTION 11

There is a patient on the unit with herpes zoster. Which staff member would you avoid assigning to this patient?

- A. A nurse who has never had mumps
- B. A nurse who has never had chicken pox
- C. A nurse who has never had roseola
- D. A nurse who has never had German measles

Correct Answer: B

The nurse who has never had chicken pox should not be assigned to this patient. Herpes zoster is caused by the same virus that causes chicken pox; therefore, assigning this nurse to this patient would increase her chances of contracting chicken pox from the patient.

QUESTION 12

Your patient has come into the emergency department with a self-inflicted wrist laceration that has severe bleeding. You have begun to apply pressure to the wound. What would your immediate priority be?

- A. See to the patient's need for psychiatric evaluation.
- B. Lower the patient's body temperature to decrease circulation.
- C. Place the extremity below the level of the heart.
- D. Monitor the patient for signs of shock.

Correct Answer: D

The nurse would need to monitor this patient for hypovolemic shock. Symptoms of shock would include tachycardia, cool, clammy skin and a change in level of consciousness. Hypovolemia leads to vasoconstriction and shunting of blood to central circulation. The patient will need to have a psychiatric evaluation, but it is not priority.

QUESTION 13

Which of the following orders would the physician prescribe for the patient with retinal detachment?

- A. Bathroom privileges
- B. Head of bed up 45 degrees
- C. Eye patch to affected eye
- D. Dark glasses to read or watch television

Correct Answer: C

The physician would order an eye patch to the affected eye. This decreases movement of the eye and prevents further damage to the eye. The physician may limit activity until the eye can be repaired.

QUESTION 14

You are conducting a teaching session for mothers at a local school on rubeola (measles). Which of the following would you not want to include in this education?

- A. Profuse runny nose, coughing and fever occur before the rash develops.
- B. The child may develop small, blue-white spots with a red base in the mouth
- C. Ears usually develop a rash first, which then spreads toward the feet.
- D. The communicable period usually ranges from 10 to 15 days after the rash appears.

Correct Answer: D

The communicable period for Rubeola (measles) is 4 to 5 days after the rash appears. The incubation period is 10-15 days. The blue-white spots found in the mouth during Rubeola are called Koplik's spots.

QUESTION 15

You have been assigned to triage patients today. Which patient would get the highest priority?

- A. A patient who ate spicy pizza who is now complaining of chest pain
- B. A patient who injured their finger while cutting vegetables
- C. A patient with a headache, fever and nasal congestion
- D. A patient who complains of ankle pain when ambulating

Correct Answer: A

A patient who is complaining of chest pain should get the highest priority. Patients with trauma, chest pain, respiratory distress and cardiac arrest would get the highest priority on the list. Patients with minor injuries, cold symptoms or sprains would fall next.

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