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National Council Licensure Examination(NCLEX-PN)

NCLEX NCLEX-PN

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QUESTION NO: 1

A nurse is reviewing a patient's arterial blood gas values.

pH- 7.49

Bicarbonate ion 24 mEq/dl

PaCO₂ – 31 mmHg

PaO₂ – 52 mmHg FiO₂ -22

Which of the following conditions apply under the following values?

- A. respiratory acidosis
- B. respiratory alkalosis
- C. metabolic acidosis
- D. metabolic alkalosis

ANSWER: B**Explanation:**

Elevated pH and low CO₂ level indicate respiratory alkalosis; no compensation is noted.

QUESTION NO: 2

Which procedures necessitate the use of surgical asepsis techniques? (Choose all that apply.)

- A. Intramuscular medication administration.
- B. Central line intravenous medication administration.
- C. Donning gloves in the operating room.
- D. Neonatal bathing.
- E. Foley catheter insertion.
- F. Emptying a urinary drainage bag.

ANSWER: B C E**Explanation:**

Surgical asepsis is used when managing central line intravenous medication administration, when donning sterile gloves in the operating room and when inserting an indwelling Foley catheter.

Medical asepsis, or clean technique, is used when bathing a neonate, when emptying a urinary drainage bag and when administering an intramuscular medication injection.

QUESTION NO: 3

Your client is adversely affected with fever, night sweats, occult hematuria, tenderness of the spleen and Osler's nodes.

What disorder would you most likely suspect?

- A. Tuberculosis
- B. AIDS/HIV
- C. Pericarditis
- D. Endocarditis

ANSWER: D**Explanation:**

The signs and symptoms of endocarditis are fever, night sweats, occult hematuria, gross hematuria, tenderness of the spleen, fatigue, edema and Osler's nodes which are tender, red spots that can be seen under the skin of the fingers.

QUESTION NO: 4

Which of the following healthcare providers can legally have access to all, or part, of a patient's medical record because they have a "need to know"?

(Choose all that apply.)

- A. Student nurses caring for a particular patient.
- B. Registered nurses when they are not caring for a particular patient.
- C. The Vice President for Nursing who is investigating a patient fall.
- D. Licensed practical nurses caring for a particular patient.
- E. A quality assurance nurse collecting data for a performance improvement activity.

ANSWER: A C D E**Explanation:**

Medical records are restricted to only those who have a "need to know".

Student nurses caring for a particular patient have the “need to know” so they can properly care for their patient assignment.

The Vice President for Nursing, as an administrator, who is investigating a patient fall also has a “need to know” because they are collecting data and information to prevent future falls.

Licensed practical nurses caring for a particular patient have the “need to know” so they can provide care to the patient; and the quality assurance nurse has the “need to know” because they are collecting data for a performance improvement activity.

No nurse, including registered nurses, are allowed access to all or part of a patient’s medical record unless they have a “need to know” because they are providing either direct or indirect care to the patient.

QUESTION NO: 5

Select all the possible opportunistic infections that adversely affect HIV/AIDS infected patients. (Choose all that apply.)

- A. Visual losses
- B. Kaposi’s sarcoma
- C. Wilms’ sarcoma
- D. Tuberculosis
- E. Peripheral neuropathy
- F. Toxoplasma gondii

ANSWER: B D F**Explanation:**

Kaposi’s sarcoma, tuberculosis, toxoplasma gondii, mycobacterium avium, herpes simplex, histoplasmosis and salmonella infections are HIV/AIDS associated opportunistic infections.

Although many affected patients can experience blindness and peripheral neuropathy, these disorders result from impaired nervous system damage rather than an infection.

Lastly, Wilms’ tumor is a pediatric form of kidney cancer and it is neither an infection nor something that typically affects the patient with HIV/AIDS.

QUESTION NO: 6

Using clichés in therapeutic communication leads the client toward _____.

- A. viewing the nurse as human
- B. accepting himself as human
- C. self-disclosing
- D. feeling discounted

ANSWER: D**Explanation:**

The use of clichés in therapeutic communication is commonly construed by the client as the nurse's lack of understanding, involvement, and caring, so the client might feel demeaned and discounted.

QUESTION NO: 7

States throughout our nation vary somewhat in terms of things that nursing assistants can and cannot legally do.

Which statements about these state to state differences are accurate? (Choose all that apply.)

- A. Nursing assistants can change catheter tubings but not catheters
- B. Nursing assistants can change sterile dressings
- C. Nursing assistants have an expanding role in many states.
- D. Nursing assistants cannot assess the physical status of the patients.
- E. Nursing assistants can apply topical medication lotions to intact skin.
- F. The trend is moving toward nurses only staffing patterns.

ANSWER: C D**Explanation:**

Nursing assistants have an expanding role in many states. For example, some states permit nursing assistants to take ECGs, or EKGs, and to perform phlebotomy when they are given the necessary training and have been deemed competent to do so. Only nurses assess; nursing assistants cannot assess the physical status of the patients.

QUESTION NO: 8

Which of the following assessment tools is used to determine the patients' level of consciousness?

- A. the Snellen Scale
- B. the Norton Scale
- C. the Morse Scale
- D. the Glasgow Scale

ANSWER: D**Explanation:**

The Glasgow Scale assesses for altered levels of consciousness.

The Snellen chart, not scale, is used to assess and measure visual acuity; the Norton Scale assesses patients' risk for skin breakdown; the Morse Scale assesses patients' risk for falls.

QUESTION NO: 9

A nurse is reviewing a patient's serum glucose levels.

Which of the following scenarios would indicate abnormal serum glucose values for a 30-year-old male?

- A. 70 mg/dl
- B. 55 mg/dl
- C. 110 mg/dl
- D. 100 mg/dl

ANSWER: B**Explanation:**

60-115 mg/dl is standard range for serum glucose levels.

QUESTION NO: 10

Select the ethical principles that are paired with their description. (Choose all that apply.)

- A. Justice: Being honest and fair
- B. Beneficence: Do no harm
- C. Veracity: Treating all patients equally
- D. Self-determination: Facilitating patient choices
- E. Beneficence: Do good
- F. Nonmaleficence: Do no harm
- G. Self-determination: Accountability

ANSWER: D E G**Explanation:**

The principle of justice requires us to be fair and just to all.

Fidelity is being faithful to one's promises. By the very nature of the implicit nurse-client relationship, the nurse must be faithful and true to their professional promises and responsibilities by providing high quality, safe care in a competent, scientifically grounded manner while upholding the clients' choices, desires and innate rights.

Beneficence means doing good, it is more than not doing harm. Nonmaleficence is “Do not harm”, as stated in the historical Hippocratic Oath. Patient self-determination and autonomy is the ethical principle that supports the patient’s right to make their own choices without coercion or the undue influence of others.

Lastly, veracity is truthfulness and being honest with the patients.

QUESTION NO: 11

A syringe pump is a type of electronic infusion pump used to infuse fluids or medications directly from a syringe.

This device is commonly used for _____.

- A. solutions administered in obstetrics
- B. dilute antibiotics
- C. large volumes of IV solution
- D. the neonatal and pediatric populations

ANSWER: D**Explanation:**

Small volumes of medication or fluids are delivered and sometimes at slow rates to neonates and pediatric clients. The syringe pump allows precise infusion of small volumes.

Solutions administered in obstetrics is incorrect because a syringe pump can be used in almost any setting, but is not generally for adult clients. Dilute antibiotics and large volumes of IV solution are incorrect because large volumes of fluids are not administered with a syringe pump.

QUESTION NO: 12

The intravenous route is potentially the most dangerous route of drug administration because _____.

- A. the IV might infiltrate
- B. it is expensive and nursing intensive
- C. rapid administration of a drug can lead to toxicity
- D. the client always has more side effects

ANSWER: C**Explanation:**

The bioavailability of the injected medication is 100% and might lead to toxicity.

An IV infiltration can cause serious problems with tissue necrosis, but this is not life threatening.

Expensive and time consuming do not equate with dangerous.

Choice “the client always has more side effects” is not always true.

QUESTION NO: 13

Incidences of child abuse appear to be higher in the African-American community and might be explained by _____.

- A. the increased number of African Americans viewing violence on television.
- B. more single-parent households in African-American communities.
- C. stricter child-rearing practices in African-American households.
- D. a higher occurrence of rage in African Americans.

ANSWER: B**Explanation:**

Child abuse is higher in households with lower socioeconomic status and single parents. The increased incidence might be due to increased stress and fewer support systems.

QUESTION NO: 14

A nurse has been assigned a patient who has recently been diagnosed with Guillain-Barre' Syndrome.

Which of the following statements is the most applicable when discussing the impairments with Guillain-Barre' Syndrome with the patient?

- A. Guillain-Barre' Syndrome gets better after 5 years in almost all cases.
- B. Guillain-Barre' Syndrome causes limited sensation in the abdominal region.
- C. Guillain-Barre' Syndrome causes muscle weakness in the legs.
- D. Guillain-Barre' Syndrome does not effect breathing in severe cases.

ANSWER: C**Explanation:**

Muscle weakness in the lower extremities is found in acute cases of Guillain-Barre' Syndrome.

QUESTION NO: 15

A patient has fallen off a bicycle and fractured the head of the proximal fibula. A cast was placed on the patient's lower extremity.

Which of the following is the most probable result of the fall?

- A. Peroneal nerve injury
- B. Tibial nerve injury
- C. Sciatic nerve injury
- D. Femoral nerve injury

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

The head of the proximal fibula is in close proximity to the peroneal nerve.

QUESTION NO: 16

Which of the following are necessary elements of malpractice? (Choose all that apply.)

- A. A breach of duty
- B. An intentional act
- C. A nonintentional act
- D. Foreseeability
- E. Patient harm
- F. Causation

ANSWER: A D E F

Explanation:

The necessary elements of malpractice are a duty to the patient, a breach of duty, foreseeability, causation, and patient harm. The breach of duty can be intentional or nonintentional.