

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2012

TITLE OF PAPER: ADVANCED MEDICAL-SURGICAL NURSING IV

COURSE CODE: NUR 511

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

MARKS: 75

THIS EXAM PAPER HAS TEN (10) PAGES

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. THERE ARE THREE (3) QUESTIONS IN THIS PAPER.
2. ANSWER ALL THREE QUESTIONS.
3. EACH QUESTION IS ALLOCATED 25 MARKS.
4. WRITE LEGIBLY.

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR HAS GRANTED PERMISSION.

QUESTION 1

Situation: Mr. A who is aged 55 years, has been admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) because of severe hypovolemia. On admission he complained of severe gnawing abdominal pain which was worse when the stomach was empty, unexplained weight loss, weakness, nausea and vomiting, vomiting blood, eructation, and black stool.

- A. What condition is Mr. A suffering from? (2)
- B. State the relevant data you will collect from Mr. A (or his significant other) regarding his:
- (i) Family history (3)
 - (ii) Personal and social history (4)
- C. Briefly describe the possible physical assessment findings (with scientific rationale) from Mr. A. (4)
- B. Develop three (3) priority actual nursing diagnoses for Mr. A. (3)
- C. Describe the nursing management of Mr. A. based on the nursing diagnoses stated above. (9)

TOTAL = 25 MARKS

QUESTION 2

Situation: Ms. X who is 35-years-old was involved in a horrific motor vehicle accident, and sustained head and chest injuries. She has been admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) in a critical condition and is unconscious.

A. Describe the rapid neurological assessment that you will conduct on Ms. X. (10)

B. Describe the nursing management of Ms. X under the following nursing diagnoses:

(i) Ineffective breathing pattern related to decreased lung expansion (5)

(ii) Risk for injury related to reduced level of consciousness (5)

(iii) Altered cerebral tissue perfusion related to increased intracranial pressure caused by brain injury. (5)

TOTAL = 25 MARKS

QUESTION 3

For each of the following questions / statements, write CLEARLY the letter that corresponds with the most appropriate answer e.g. 1. B

1. A thirty five year old male has been an insulin-dependent diabetic for five years and now is unable to urinate. Which of the following would you most likely suspect?
 - A. Atherosclerosis
 - B. Diabetic nephropathy
 - C. Autonomic neuropathy
 - D. Somatic neuropathy

2. A patient's chart indicates a history of hyperkalemia. Which of the following would you NOT expect to see with this patient if this condition were acute?
- A. Decreased heart rate
 - B. Paresthesias
 - C. Muscle weakness of the extremities
 - D. Migraines
3. A patient's chart indicates a history of ketoacidosis. Which of the following would you NOT expect to see with this patient if this condition were acute?
- A. Vomiting
 - B. Extreme Thirst
 - C. Weight gain
 - D. Acetone breath smell
4. An 84 year-old male has been loosing mobility and gaining weight over the last two (2) months. The patient also has the heater running in his house 24 hours a day, even on warm days. Which of the following tests is most likely to be performed?
- A. CBC (complete blood count)
 - B. ECG (electrocardiogram)
 - C. Thyroid function tests
 - D. CT (computed tomography) scan

5. A 28 year old male has been found wandering around in a confused pattern. The male is sweaty and pale. Which of the following tests is most likely to be performed first?
- A. Blood glucose check
 - B. CT scan
 - C. Blood cultures
 - D. Arterial blood gases
6. The client with a history of diabetes insipidus is admitted with polyuria, polydipsia, and mental confusion. The priority intervention for this client is:
- A. Measure the urinary output
 - B. Check the vital signs
 - C. Encourage increased fluid intake
 - D. Weigh the client
7. Which of the following assessment findings characterize thyroid storm?
- A. increased body temperature, decreased pulse, and increased blood pressure
 - B. increased body temperature, increased pulse, and increased blood pressure
 - C. increased body temperature, decreased pulse, and decreased blood pressure
 - D. increased body temperature, increased pulse, and decreased blood pressure

8. After thyroidectomy, which of the following is the priority assessment to observe laryngeal nerve damage?
- A. hoarseness of voice
 - B. difficulty in swallowing
 - C. tetany
 - D. fever
9. A 32-year-old mother of three is brought to the clinic. Her pulse is 52, there is a weight gain of 15 kilograms in 4 months, and the client is wearing two sweaters. The client is diagnosed with hypothyroidism. Which of the following nursing diagnoses is of highest priority?
- A. Impaired physical mobility related to decreased endurance
 - B. Hypothermia related to decreased metabolic rate
 - C. Disturbed thought processes related to interstitial edema
 - D. Decreased cardiac output related to bradycardia
10. Hypoglycemia could result from all of the following EXCEPT:
- A. Oral hypoglycemic agents
 - B. Fasting
 - C. Too little insulin
 - D. Too much insulin

11. Hypoglycemia is characterized by all of the following EXCEPT;
- A. Acetone breath
 - B. Sweating
 - C. Shaking
 - D. Anxiety
12. The nurse should visit which of the following clients first?
- A. The client with diabetes mellitus with a blood glucose of 95mg/dl
 - B. The client with hypertension being maintained on Catopril
 - C. The client with chest pain and a history of angina
 - D. The client with Raynaud's disease
13. During dialysis, ultra-filtration occurs when:
- A. Water is removed from blood because there is a pressure gradient between blood and dialysate.
 - B. Phosphorus is removal from blood because dialysate is low on phosphorus.
 - C. A higher concentration of sodium causes water to move from body compartments into the dialysate.
 - D. A suction device is applied to the venous trap and the Harvard Clamp is
14. While reviewing a client's lab results, the nurse recognizes that a fasting glucose value of _____ mg/dl is within normal limits.
- A. 60
 - B. 120
 - C. 160
 - D. 200

15. A client is admitted to the hospital with chronic renal failure. A diet low in protein is ordered. The rationale for the low-protein diet is that:
- A. Proteins break down into urea nitrogen and other wastes
 - B. A high protein diet increases sodium and potassium levels
 - C. A high protein diet depletes calcium and phosphorus
 - D. A high protein diet decreases albumin production
16. A client is admitted after a motor vehicle accident (MVA) with a temperature of 40°C. The most likely explanation for the elevated temperature is that:
- A. There was damage to the frontal lobe of the brain
 - B. He will require a cooling blanket to decrease the temperature
 - C. He has an infection from the abrasions to the head and face
 - D. There was damage to the hypothalamus
17. Ketoacidosis [KA] is a problem that affects people with
- A. diabetes mellitus
 - B. Diabetes insipidus
 - C. Severe hypertension
 - D. cerebro-vascular accident
18. A nurse is taking the blood pressure of the obese client. If the BP cuff is too small the results will be:
- A. A false blood pressure elevation
 - B. A false low blood pressure reading
 - C. Blood pressure reading that is correct
 - D. A subnormal finding

19. A physician has ordered atropine sulfate 0.4mg intramuscular (IM) before surgery. The medication is supplied in 0.8 mg per milliliter. The nurse should administer how many milliliters of the medication?
- A. 0.25 ml
 - B. 0.5 ml
 - C. 1.0 ml
 - D. 1.25 ml
20. Which of the following is not a sign of diabetes mellitus?
- A. Drinking a lot of water.
 - B. Frequent urination.
 - C. Increased intracranial pressure.
 - D. Weight loss despite good food intake
21. A client who has been receiving heparin has a large bloody bowel movement. Which action would be best for the nurse to take immediately?
- A. Administer vitamin K intramuscular (IM)
 - B. Stop heparin
 - C. Reduce heparin and administer urokinase
 - D. Stop heparin and call the doctor

22. The nurse is taking the vital signs of the client admitted with cancer of the pancreas.

The nurse is aware that the fifth vital signs is:

- A. Anorexia
- B. Pain
- C. Insomnia
- D. Fatigue

23. The nurse is caring for the client following a cerebrovascular accident (CVA / stroke).

Which portion of the brain is responsible for taste, smell, and hearing?

- A. Occipital
- B. Frontal
- C. Temporal
- D. Parietal

24. The nurse is assessing the client for possible oral cancer. The nurse identifies which of the following to be a late-occurring symptom of cancer?

- A. Warmth
- B. Odour
- C. Pain
- D. Ulcer with flat edges

25. Hyperglycemia could result from all of the following EXCEPT:

- A. Emotional stress
- B. Infection
- C. Reduced exercise
- D. Fasting