

Med-Surg Test

1. A client with generalized arteriosclerosis approaches the nurse and says, "I don't sleep well at night because my feet get cold. What should I do?" Which of the following responses be the nurse would be most appropriate?
 - a. "Rub your feet briskly to improve circulation."
 - b. "Place a light blanket over you feet at night."
 - c. "Place you feet on a covered hot-water bottle."
 - d. "Put a covered heating pad on your feet with the dial on the lowest setting."
2. You are concerned the your patient is receiving too much digoxin. What signs and symptoms are indicative of digitalis toxicity?
 - a. Convulsions
 - b. Yellow hallows in vision
 - c. Muscle cramping
 - d. Orthostatic hypotension
3. The food of your newly casted patient's leg is mottled and warmer than the unaffected leg. You notify the physician immediately because you suspect:
 - a. Arterial insufficiency
 - b. Venous insufficiency
 - c. Compartment syndrome
 - d. Fat emboli
4. Which of the following symptoms is characteristic of intermittent claudication?
 - a. Extensive discoloration
 - b. Dependent edema
 - c. Pain associated with activity
 - d. Petechiae
5. A patient who is to have nitrostat on hand for treatment of angina should be given which of the following instructions?
 - a. "Keep you medication in the refrigerator at all times."
 - b. "Replace your tablets every two years, whether used or not."
 - c. "Swallow your pill with a big glass of water, not milk."
 - d. "If you angina is not relieved after 3 Nitro pills, come to the Emergency Department for evaluation."
6. A 15 year old adolescent is hospitalized with Type I insulin-dependent diabetes. Which of the following is essential to teach the patient?
 - a. Insulin dosage will be determind daily by the food intake
 - b. Insulin will have to be administered the rest of the patient's life
 - c. Insulin dosage will be adjusted by the way the patient eats.
 - d. Insulin will be adjusted as the patient grows older.
7. A client with diabetes has been taking tolazamide 100mg PO daily. He is admitted to your floor s/p Left hip arthroplasty (replacement) and is to be on Coumadin 5mg PO daily. You anticipate the following potential changes:
 - a. An increase in serum glucose levels.
 - b. A decrease in prothrombin times
 - c. A decrease in serum glucose and an increase in prothrombin times

- d. An increase in serum glucose and an increase in prothrombin times
8. Your patient has been placed on a regime of methylprednisolone because of severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Your discharge instructions will include:
- a. Taper the medication dose according to the regime.
 - b. Take the medication only on days when your breathing is more labored.
 - c. Discontinue the medication when the symptoms or shortness of breath are no longer present.
 - d. Contact the physician because this is not a recommended therapy for COPD exacerbations.
9. The physician prescribed 20 units of NPH insulin 30 minutes before breakfast daily for a patient with diabetes mellitus. The patient is to have a mid-afternoon snack of milk and crackers. The patient asks the nurse why the snack is necessary. Which response by the nurse would be the best?
- a. "It will improve your nutritional status."
 - b. "It will improve carbohydrate metabolism."
 - c. "It prevents an insulin reaction. This is when your insulin will be peaking and you may feel like you have a low blood sugar if you do not eat."
 - d. "It prevents diabetic ketoacidosis."
10. The client with hypoparathyroidism complains of tingling of the lips, hands, and face. You notify the physician because you suspect the development of which complication?
- a. Syndrome of inappropriate antidiuretic hormone.
 - b. Tetany
 - c. Myxedema
 - d. Cushing's syndrome
11. A client who had a 12-lead electrocardiogram tells you there was a premature ventricular contraction noted by the technician taking the EKG. Your response to your client's concern about this is based on the knowledge that:
- a. Premature ventricular contractions may be benign
 - b. There are no lifestyle changes that might decrease their incidence.
 - c. Premature ventricular contractions are always a prelude to lethal arrhythmias.
 - d. Premature ventricular contractions indicated the patient has had a myocardial infarction.
12. A client undergoes a subtotal thyroidectomy. During the immediate postoperative period, the nurse should assess for laryngeal nerve damage. Which of the following findings would indicate the presence of this problem?
- a. Facial twitching
 - b. Wheezing
 - c. Hoarseness
 - d. Hemorrhage
13. An adult client is hospitalized with hiatal hernia. Following a transthoracic hiatal herniorrhaphy, the client returns to the unit with chest tube attached to a 3-chamber water-seal drainage connected to suction. Which of the following

- actions should the nurse take initially if the client's chest tube is not draining immediately following surgery?
- a. Clamp the chest tube near the point of exit from the chest.
 - b. Increase the suction applied to the drainage system.
 - c. Ask the client to deep-breathe and cough.
 - d. Turn the client toward the operative side.
14. The nurse will instruct clients receiving thiazide drugs to include foods in their diets that are high in:
- a. Calcium
 - b. Potassium
 - c. Iron
 - d. Magnesium
15. Your client has a colostomy. After ambulation, you notice that the client's stoma is a dusky color. You will:
- a. Have the client lie down and then notify the physician
 - b. Loosen the drainage pouch and inspect the stoma for ischemia; if color does not return, then notify the physician.
 - c. Do nothing since the stoma should appear dusky in color.
 - d. Prepare the client for a stomal irrigation
16. Your client will have a permanent colostomy following a colon resection. You will teach the client that the colostomy should begin to function postoperatively:
- a. 12 to 24 hours.
 - b. 2 to 4 days
 - c. 4 to 5 days
 - d. 5 to 6 days
17. A client with cirrhosis of the liver is developing hepatic encephalopathy. You will anticipate laboratory studies that will monitor the client's level of:
- a. Blood ammonia
 - b. Serum protein
 - c. Alpha-fetoprotein
 - d. Serum amylase
18. A patient's wound has eviscerated. Which of the following will you implement?
- a. Stay with the patient and notify the physician
 - b. Apply a clean, dry dressing to the wound.
 - c. Cleanse the wound with Betadine and apply bacteriostatic ointment
 - d. Place sterile towels soaked in sterile saline over the wound.
19. A patient is to receive a blood transfusion. Prior to administration of the blood, it is important for the nurse to:
- a. Instruct the patient that transfusion takes less than 30 minutes.
 - b. Administer an antibiotic
 - c. Infuse dextrose 5% in water with the blood.
 - d. Verify the prescription and check labels carefully with another nurse.
20. You are irrigating a draining wound with sterile saline solution. Which of the following would be the most appropriate procedure to follow?
- a. Wash hands, don clean gloves, remove soiled dressing, wash hands, prepare sterile field, and don sterile gloves.

- b. Prepare Sterile field, put on sterile gloves, and removed soiled dressing.
- c. Pour solution, wash hands, and remove soiled dressing
- d. Remove soiled dressing, flush wound, and was hands.

Total score: _____

Passing score: _____

Evaluator: _____