



## EMERGENCY ROOM NURSE COMPETENCY TEST

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Instruction: Please select the best answer.**

1. During the initial assessment of this 70 year old male who is being re-admitted with hematemesis and bright-red rectal bleeding, the nurse should be particularly alert for:
  1. Facial flushing
  2. Petechiae
  3. Pruritus
  4. Hypertension
  
2. The nurse knows that a patient is on long term anticoagulant therapy must be carefully monitored for potential hemorrhage complications that most commonly affect the:
  1. GI Tract
  2. Genitourinary tract
  3. Respiratory tract
  4. Capillary vasculature
  
3. Which therapy would the nurse expect the physician to order for the patient?
  1. Peritoneal dialysis
  2. Administration of Vitamin K
  3. Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) chelaton
  4. Plasmapheresis.
  
4. Which therapy would be inappropriate for a patient with hemorrhagic complications from oral anticoagulants?
  1. Volume replacement
  2. Administration of whole blood
  3. Administration of fresh frozen plasma
  4. Administration of protamine sulfate

... Quality Care + Professional Staff ...



5. The nurse would normally instruct a patient receiving anticoagulant therapy to:
- 1. Avoid excessive alcohol intake
  - 2. Avoid using an electric shaver
  - 3. Avoid using soft-bristled toothbrushes
  - 4. Trim corns and calluses weekly
6. Which condition would the nurse expect to note in a patient who has sustained a head injury and damage to the sixth cranial nerve?
- 1. Absent gag reflex
  - 2. Fixed and dilated pupils
  - 3. Nystagmus
  - 4. Inward deviation of the eyes
7. Which drug is the treatment of choice to prevent seizures from traumatic head injury
- 1. Diazepam
  - 2. Dexamethasone (Decadron)
  - 3. Phenytoin
  - 4. Phenobarbital
8. Which independent nursing intervention best relieves increased ICP
- 1. Elevating the head of the bed 30 degrees
  - 2. Administering oxygen
  - 3. Administering diuretics
  - 4. Hyperventilating the patient
9. Which sign is typically the first indication of increased ICP?
- 1. Elevated systolic blood pressure
  - 2. Elevated body temperature
  - 3. Altered respiratory pattern
  - 4. Altered level of consciousness
10. The most reliable technique for testing the motor strength of a patient's arm is to:
- 1. Observe for spontaneous movement
  - 2. Test the patient's muscle reflexes
  - 3. Ask the patient to squeeze the nurse's hand
  - 4. Ask the patient to close his eyes and to raise his arms straight in front of him.



11. A patient admitted to the ED with an injury to the left cerebral hemisphere may exhibit:
- 1. Left hemiparesis
  - 2. Left homonymous hemianopia
  - 3. Deviation of the eyes to the left
  - 4. Left-sided hemiplegia
12. The nurse understands that pinpoint pupils usually are indicative of a lesion in the:
- 1. Pons
  - 2. Optic nerve
  - 3. Medulla
  - 4. Midbrain
13. An unconscious patient with pinpoint pupils is most likely to exhibit what breathing pattern?
- 1. Apneustic breathing
  - 2. Biot's respiration
  - 3. Ataxic breathing
  - 4. Cheyne-Stokes respirations
14. Which nursing action would be inappropriate for a patient who has just been diagnosed as having viral meningitis?
- 1. Institute seizure precautions
  - 2. Institute isolation precautions
  - 3. Monitor the patient's temperature frequently
  - 4. Institute measures to control increased ICP
15. Which of the following findings is a common sign of meningococcal meningitis?
- 1. Petechiae
  - 2. Hypothermia
  - 3. Nystagmus
  - 4. Hypertensive crisis
16. The clinical signs and symptoms of acute adrenal crisis are caused by:
- 1. Decreased aldosterone and cortisol levels
  - 2. Decreased ADH and cortisol levels
  - 3. Increased ADH and cortisol levels
  - 4. Increased aldosterone and cortisol levels



17. Which incident is the most common cause of death from acute alcohol intoxication?
- 1. Respiratory depression or arrest
  - 2. Aspiration of vomitus
  - 3. GI bleeding
  - 4. Accidental injury
18. Which condition commonly mimics the signs and symptoms of alcohol intoxication?
- 1. Diabetic reactions
  - 2. Head injury
  - 3. Drug overdose
  - 4. All of the above
19. Which symptom of cocaine abuse would the nurse expect to detect during a patient assessment?
- 1. Lethargy and obtundation
  - 2. Constricted pupils
  - 3. Hypothermia and tiredness
  - 4. Euphoria and restlessness
20. Which treatment would the nurse expect the physician to order for a patient with a suspected cocaine overdose?
- 1. Oxygen
  - 2. Naloxone
  - 3. Physostigmine
  - 4. Activated charcoal

**SCORE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PASSING SCORE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EVALUATOR:** \_\_\_\_\_