



TELEMETRY/STEP-DOWN NURSE COMPETENCY TEST

NAME: _____ TITLE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Instruction: Please select the best answer.

1. The nurse is assisting in collecting data on an African-American client admitted to the ambulatory care unit who is scheduled for a hernia repair. Which of the following information about the client is of least priority during the data collection?
 - a. Cardiovascular
 - b. Neurological
 - c. Respiratory
 - d. Psychosocial
2. The nurse is told that the client's potassium level is 3.2 mEq/L. Which of the following does the nurse note on the cardiac monitor as a result of the laboratory value?
 - a. Elevated T waves
 - b. Absent P waves
 - c. Elevated ST segment
 - d. U Waves
3. The nurse reviews the electrolyte results and notes that the potassium level is 5.4 mEq/L. Which of the following does the nurse not on the cardiac monitor as a result of the laboratory value?
 - a. Narrow peaked T waves
 - b. Prominent U waves
 - c. ST Elevation
 - d. Peaked P wave
4. The nurse is caring for a client with suspected diagnosis of hypocalcemia. Which of the following sing is not an indication of this diagnosis?
 - a. Hypotonicity of the muscles
 - b. Tingling sensations
 - c. Hyperactive reflexes
 - d. Positive Trousseau's signs

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5. The client is suspected of having a myocardial infarction. The nurse expects elevations in which of the following isoenzyme values reported with the creatinine phosphokinase (CPK) level?
- a. MM
 - b. MB
 - c. BB
 - d. MK
6. The client with atrial fibrillation who is receiving maintenance therapy of warfarin sodium (coumadin) has a prothrombin time (PT) of 30 seconds. The nurse anticipates that which of the following will be prescribed?
- a. Holding the next dose of warfarin
 - b. Administering the next dose of warfarin
 - c. Increasing the next dose of warfarin
 - d. Adding a dose of heparin
7. The adult client with a critically high potassium level has received sodium polystyrene sulfonate (kayexalate). The nurse evaluates that the medication was most effective if the client's repeat serum potassium level is:
- a. 6.2 mEq/L
 - b. 5.8 mEq/L
 - c. 5.4 mEq/L
 - d. 4.9 mEq/L
8. The client with a history of cardiac disease is due for a morning dose of furosemide (Lasix). The nurse reviews the client's record and reports which of the following serum potassium levels before administering the dose of furosemide?
- a. 3.8 mEq/L
 - b. 3.2 mEq/L
 - c. 4.8 mEq/L
 - d. 4.2 mEq/L
9. The nurse volunteering at the health-screening clinic teaches a 22-year-old client that diet and exercise should be used as tools to keep the total cholesterol level under
- a. 150 mg/dL
 - b. 200mg/dL
 - c. 250mg/dL
 - d. 300mg/dl
10. The client with heart disease is instructed regarding a low-fat diet. The nurse evaluates that the client understands the diet if the client states a food item to avoid is:
- a. Apples
 - b. Oranges
 - c. Avocado
 - d. Cherries



11. The client receiving TPN complains of headache. The nurse notes that the client has an increased blood pressure and bounding pulse. The nurse reports the findings, knowing that these signs are indicative of which complication of TPN therapy?
- a. Hyperglycemia
 - b. Air embolism
 - c. Sepsis
 - d. Fluid overload
12. The client receiving a blood transfusion rings the call bell for the nurse. Upon entering the room, the nurse notes that the patient is flushed, dyspneic, and is complaining of generalized itching. The nurse interprets that the client is experiencing:
- a. Fluid overload
 - b. Bacteremia
 - c. Hypovolemic shock
 - d. Transfusion reaction
13. The physician orders meperidine hydrochloride (Demerol), 35 mg IM stat. The medication label states meperidine hydrochloride (Demerol), 50 mg per mL. The nurse plans to prepare how much medication to administer the dose?
- a. 0.5 mL
 - b. 0.6 mL
 - c. 0.7 mL
 - d. 1.0 mL
14. The physician's order reads digoxin (Lanoxin), 0.25 mg PO daily. The medication label reads digoxin (Lanoxin), 0.125 mg per tablet. The nurse prepares how many tablet(s) to administer the dose?
- a. 0.5 tablet
 - b. 1 tablet
 - c. 1.5 tablets
 - d. 2 tablets
15. The nurse is reviewing the laboratory results of a client scheduled for surgery. Which of the following laboratory results indicates to the nurse that the surgery may be postponed?
- a. Sodium (Na⁺) 140 mEq/L
 - b. Hemoglobin (Hgb) 9.2 g/dl
 - c. Platelets 200,000 / mm³
 - d. Serum creatinine 0.9 mg/100 mL
16. The nurse is suctioning a client through a tracheostomy tube. The nurse plans to apply suction during the
- a. 10 seconds
 - b. 15 seconds
 - c. 20 seconds
 - d. 25 seconds



17. The nurse is told that an assigned client will have chest tubes removed. In preparation for the procedure, the nurse plans to:
- a. Clamp the chest tubes
 - b. Disconnect the drainage system
 - c. Empty the drainage system
 - d. Administer pain medication 30 minutes before the procedure
18. A client tells the nurse of his or her decision to refuse external cardiac massage. Which of the following is the most appropriate nursing action?
- a. Notify the physician of the client's request
 - b. Document the client's request in the client's record
 - c. Conduct a client conference to share the client's request
 - d. Discuss the client's request with the family
19. A client asks the nurse how to become an organ donor. Which of the following is not a component of the nurse's response?
- a. A donor must be 18 years or older
 - b. The donation is done by written consent
 - c. The family is responsible for making that decision at the time of death
 - d. The client has the right to donate own organs for transplantation
20. The nurse is assigned to care for an elderly client. To reduce the risk of aspiration during meals, the nurse positions the client:
- a. Upright in a chair
 - b. On the left side of the bed
 - c. In a low Fowler's position with legs elevated
 - d. On the right side of the bed

SCORE: _____

PASSING SCORE: _____

EVALUATOR: _____