

College Admission

*Ambulatory-Care-Nursing
Ambulatory Care Nursing Prep Certification Exam*



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Question: 1

When conducting a fingerstick for point of care blood glucose testing, the best finger to use is the:

- A. Thumb
- B. Index finger
- C. 3rd or 4th finger
- D. 5th (little) finger

Answer: C

Explanation:

When conducting a fingerstick for point of care blood glucose testing, the best finger to use is the 3rd or 4th fingertip. The ambulatory care nurse should examine the fingertip and the grain of the fingerprints and should use the lancet across the grain rather than parallel to the grain, on the side of the finger pad. A drop of blood should be collected on the test strip and read by the monitor following manufacturer's directions as they may vary slightly. A normal blood glucose reading is below 100 mg/dL.

Question: 2

A nonverbal young adult patient with autism spectrum disorder is scheduled for a minor surgical procedure and is accompanied by a parent, but the patient is very frightened, distressed, and uncooperative. The best way to reduce the patient's anxiety is to:

- A. Leave the patient alone for a period of time.
- B. Pat the patient on the arm and speak soothingly.
- C. Ask the parent for advice about appropriate interventions.
- D. Ask the parent to leave the room.

Answer: C

Explanation:

If a nonverbal young adult patient with autism spectrum disorder is scheduled for a minor surgical procedure and is accompanied by a parent, but the patient is very frightened, distressed, and uncooperative, the best way to reduce the patient's anxiety is to ask the parent for advice about appropriate interventions. The parent likely knows what triggers the patient's anxiety and what has a calming effect. Generally, touching a patient with autism spectrum disorder without asking first can be very distressing to the patient.

Question: 3

The primary purpose of an ambulatory care center participating in an ambulatory care registry, such as the PINNACLE Registry or the Diabetes Collaborative Registry, is to:

- A. Network with other ambulatory care centers.
- B. Increase rates of reimbursement.
- C. Improve the quality of care.
- D. Implement improved resource allocation.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The primary purpose is to improve the quality of care for the practice and ambulatory care as a whole. Participation allows participants to benchmark their own quality level. Registries help to track and improve care for specific types of disease. Participation in some registries is mandatory, but outpatient registries usually ask for voluntary participation.

Question: 4

When applying the Rule of 9s to determine the percentage of body surface area that has been burned, if an adult patient has burns covering the front of the right arm and anterior trunk (chest and abdomen), the percentage of BSA that is burned is:

- A. 9%
- B. 18%
- C. 22.5%
- D. 27%

Answer: C

Explanation:

When applying the Rule of 9s to determine the percentage of body surface area that has been burned, if an adult patient has burns covering the front of the right arm (4.5%) and anterior trunk (chest and abdomen) (18%), the percentage of BSA that is burned is 22.5%. Rule of 9s:

- Head/neck: 9% (4.5% front, 4.5% back)
- Anterior trunk: 18%
- Posterior trunk: 18%
- Leg: 18% (9% front, 9% back)
- Arm: 9% (4.5% front, 4.5% back)
- Genitals: 1%

Question: 5

The coding system that is used to code for outpatient diagnoses is:

- A. ICD-9

- B. HCPCS/CPT
- C. ICD-IO-CM
- D. ICD-IO-PCS

Answer: C

Explanation:

The coding system that is used to code for outpatient diagnoses is ICD-IO-CM. The same coding system is used to code for inpatient diagnoses as well, so there is consistency when patients transfer from one level of care to another. ICD-IO-CM replaced ICD-9 in October 2015. Inpatient and outpatient services, however, use different coding systems for procedures. Inpatient facilities utilized ICD-IO-PCS, and outpatient facilities utilized HCPCS/CPT. HCPCS level I codes incorporate the CPT codes, but level II codes are used for services not included as part of the CPT codes, such as ambulance service.

Question: 6

If an outpatient facility plans to establish a telehealth program to provide medical consultation and services to a tri-state area, the first consideration is:

- A. Costs of implementation
- B. State laws and regulations
- C. Staffing requirements
- D. Issues of reimbursement

Answer: B

Explanation:

If an outpatient facility plans to establish a telehealth program to provide medical consultation and services to a tri-state area, the first consideration is state laws and regulations, as these may vary considerably. Some states require informed consent while others do not, and in

Question: 7

In a physician's office, the encounter form typically contains:

- A. A review of patient systems and health history
- B. CPT and ICD-IO-CM codes applicable to the type of practice
- C. CPT and ICD-IO-PCS codes applicable to the type of practice
- D. A history of patient visits to the practice

Answer: B

Explanation:

In a physician's office, the encounter form typically contains CPT (procedure) and ICD-IO-CM

(diagnosis) codes applicable to the type of practice. The encounter form is completed by the healthcare provider during visits. The encounter form then serves as the basis for billing. Each type of practice creates its own encounter form or uses a corresponding standardized form. Because there are very many CPT and ICD-IO-CM codes, one form cannot contain them all, so a practice chooses the codes that most apply to the procedures and diagnoses of that practice.

Question: 8

A 62-year-old female patient has been having episodes of pain in the right upper quadrant of her abdomen radiating to the right scapula and persisting for periods of about 30-90 minutes. What imaging does the ambulatory care nurse anticipate?

- A. Magnetic resonance imaging
- B. Computed tomography
- C. Radiograph
- D. Ultrasound

Answer: D

Explanation:

These symptoms are consistent with cholelithiasis, and an ultrasound will show whether gallstones are present. Gallstones are more common in females than males and in those older than age 60.

Question: 9

A patient brings materials printed from the internet regarding a new treatment and asks the ambulatory care nurse to evaluate the information. The nurse should begin by:

- A. Telling the patient to trust nothing found on the internet
- B. Advising the patient to discuss the matter with the physician
- C. Searching the internet for the source of the material
- D. Suggesting that the patient ask a pharmacist

Answer: C

Explanation:

If a patient brings materials printed from the internet regarding a new treatment and asks the ambulatory care nurse to evaluate the information, the nurse should begin by searching the internet for the source of the material. This presents a good opportunity to educate the patient about the importance of a valid source and how to determine validity. If the source and information is valid, the nurse should suggest the patient discuss the treatment with the physician.

Question: 10

If a patient is a smoker and is to be scheduled for surgery, the patient should be advised to:

- A. Decrease smoking.
- B. Use a bronchodilator before surgery.
- C. Stop smoking at least 6 weeks before surgery.
- D. Quit smoking 24 hours before surgery.

Answer: C

Explanation:

If a patient is a smoker and is to be scheduled for surgery, the patient should be advised to stop smoking at least 6 weeks before surgery if possible (and 6 weeks after surgery as well). Smokers have higher risks of morbidity and mortality associated with surgery. Nicotine is a vasoconstrictor, and this can interfere with oxygenation and healing of tissues. Anesthesiologists should always be aware of a patient's smoking status prior to surgery.

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