

Medical Technology

*NCCT-NCMA
National Certified Medical Assistant Exam*



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Question: 1

Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandates that individuals with disabilities are:

- A. To be provided access to public services
- B. To be given opportunities for public housing
- C. Not to be discriminated against in obtaining employment
- D. To be provided means of telecommunication

Answer: C

Explanation:

There are five titles outlined in the ADA. Title I covers prohibition of discrimination in employment for those individuals with physical or mental disabilities. The other answers describe the content of Titles II, III, and IV. Title V covers insurance and definitions of exclusions, among other things.

Question: 2

Which of the following health care issues is NOT covered under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)?

- A. Increasing the portability of health insurance
- B. Addressing health care fraud and abuse
- C. Standardizing the electronic transmission of health data
- D. Outlining payment of Medicare and Medicaid

Answer: D

Explanation:

HIPAA covers all of the issues discussed in choices A through C as well as a number of others, such as tax breaks for medical savings accounts, in its five titles. However, the only reference in HIPAA to Medicare type plans is that they must coordinate with other plans to prevent duplication of coverage.

Question: 3

Which of the following constitutes a breach of contract by a health care provider?

- A. Discontinuing treatment because the patient did not pay in a timely manner
- B. Discontinuing treatment because it is no longer needed

- C. Being formally discharged by the patient
- D. Withdrawing from the case due to patient noncompliance or an inability to serve the patient

Answer: A

Explanation:

Discontinuation of treatment by a health care provider merely because the patient has not paid in a timely manner would be considered a breach of contract. The other choices describe the three instances in which the provider can legally discontinue treatment. Choices C and D require the professional to send a notice to the patient (by certified mail with return receipt) describing the situation.

Question: 4

Under the doctrine of respondeat superior, which of the following CANNOT potentially be held legally responsible for an act of negligence by a medical assistant?

- A. The medical assistant
- B. The medical assistant's supervisor
- C. The medical assistant's education provider
- D. The medical assistant's employer

Answer: C

Explanation:

Under the doctrine of respondeat superior, both the medical assistant's employer and supervisor (usually a doctor, nurse, or some other licensed professional) are responsible for the employee's actions to a degree and can be sued in instances of negligence by the medical assistant. However, the medical assistant can also be sued, because they are considered responsible for providing a reasonable standard of care.

Question: 5

Touching a patient in a manner to which they have not consented is considered a tort of:

- A. Invasion of privacy
- B. Battery
- C. Libel
- D. Slander

Answer: B

Explanation:

All of the given choices are types of torts, which are wrongful actions that culminate in injury to the other person (in this case, the patient). Battery is the touching of a patient in a manner to

which they have not consented. Invasion of privacy includes a number of situations in which a patient's privacy is invaded, such as releasing information about them without permission or failing to shield them properly during examination. Libel and slander are two types of defamation of character: false and malicious writing or speaking about someone, respectively.

Question: 6

All of the following minors (under age 18) are considered emancipated EXCEPT a minor who is:

- A. A member of the armed forces
- B. Financially responsible and no longer under parental care
- C. Married
- D. Being treated for a sexually transmitted disease

Answer: D

Explanation:

The minors described in A, B, and C, as well as minors who are parents, are considered to be emancipated and are capable of signing their own consent. In most states, minors being treated for sexually transmitted diseases, as well as those who are pregnant or have a drug or alcohol addiction, can also sign their own consent, but in this case, they are considered mature (not emancipated minors).

Question: 7

Unless public safety is involved, what is required in all cases to release patient medical records after a subpoena is issued?

- A. The patient's written consent
- B. A court order
- C. A deposition
- D. An interrogatory

Answer: A

Explanation:

A subpoena is a court-issued request for access to part or all of a patient's medical record. Unless public safety is involved, the basic requirement for record release to anyone is the patient's written consent. A court order is sometimes also required when sensitive issues are involved, such as AIDS, other sexually transmitted diseases, or mental illness. Choices C and D refer to later processes during the discovery phase of litigation, dealing with oral and written testimony, respectively.

Question: 8

According to typical statutes of limitations involving negligence or malpractice, which of the following time points is NOT used as a starting point?

- A. When the negligent act occurred
- B. When the negligent act was revealed
- C. When the litigant filed a claim
- D. When treatment was terminated

Answer: C

Explanation:

The time point most often used as the starting point for the statute of limitations on negligence is generally choice A, when the act occurred, but choices B and D are sometimes utilized. However, choice C, the date the litigant filed the claim, is not a valid starting point for the statute of limitations to apply.

Question: 9

What normal patient right is suspended upon discovery of child abuse?

- A. Privacy
- B. Confidentiality
- C. Documentation
- D. Standard of care

Answer: B

Explanation:

When a health care provider or other professional observes an instance of suspected child abuse, they are legally required to report this to the police, a social services agency, and parents; this suspends the normal patient right to confidentiality. The right to privacy is slightly different. The provider must still properly document the case and provide the expected standard of care.

Question: 10

A POLST form is a type of:

- A. Document declaring durable power of attorney for health care
- B. Document releasing a provider from liability under Good Samaritan laws
- C. Living will or advance directive
- D. PSDA

Answer: C

Explanation:

The POLST (Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment) form, which is available in some configuration in the majority of states, is a type of living will or advance directive for level of care when a patient is near death. This may also be referred to as a MOLST (Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment). A durable power of attorney designates another individual for decisions regarding the patient's health care. PSDA refers to the federal Patient Self-Determination Act, which is related in that it discusses Medicare/Medicaid payments and availability of advance directives in institutions. POLST forms are unrelated to the Good Samaritan laws.

Question: 11

Generally, medical assistants are permitted to do certain clinical procedures only under the supervision of an employer/provider because they are NOT

- A. Certified
- B. Registered
- C. Licensed
- D. Certified, registered, or licensed

Answer: C

Explanation:

Medical assistants are only allowed to do certain clinical procedures because they are not a licensed profession, as opposed to doctors and nurses, who must fulfill specified educational requirements and pass a state-administered examination. Many medical assistants choose to voluntarily become certified.

Question: 12

Which of the following best describes ethics?

- A. Individual choices relating to conduct
- B. Personal values governing an individual's perceptions of right and wrong
- C. Laws defining acceptable behavior
- D. Creeds to live by

Answer: B

Explanation:

Ethics refers to the set of personal values that shape an individual's perceptions of right and wrong, which is different from morals. Ethics are not laws defining acceptable behavior or creeds to live by, although the latter generally are derived from ethics.

Question: 13

Bioethics is defined as:

- A. Any ethical matter that pertains to life and/or health care
- B. Issues regarding abortion and the use of fetal tissue
- C. Dealings with individuals who have committed sexual abuse or exploitation
- D. Dealings with individuals who have committed physical or emotional abuse

Answer: A

Explanation:

Bioethics is an overall term relating to all ethical matters pertaining to life and/or health care. The other responses describe particular situations in which bioethics might be invoked.

Question: 14

Which of the following is NOT set forth by the American Association of Medical Assistants (AAMA) Code of Ethics?

- A. Respect for the confidentiality of patient information
- B. Performance of service while respecting all patients
- C. Continuous professional improvement
- D. Specific ways of dealing with certain situations

Answer: D

Explanation:

The AAMA Code of Ethics for medical assistants does not outline specific ways of dealing with certain situations, but it does expound five things that should be strived for. These include choices A, B, and C, as well as upholding the principles and disciplines of the profession, and taking part in further service activities related to the betterment of the community.

Question: 15

At present, what is the main difference between reporting child abuse and reporting elder or intimate partner abuse?

- A. Child abuse must be reported to authorities in all 50 states, while other types of abuse do not always need to be reported.
- B. Sexual abuse is the main offense related to child abuse, but not to elder or intimate partner abuse.
- C. Physical abuse is more predominant in elder and intimate partner abuse than in child abuse.
- D. Child abuse is more likely to involve another reportable criminal act.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Not all states have legislation related to reporting of elder (60 years of age or older) or

intimate partner abuse. All three types of abuse could potentially be sexual, physical, or emotional. Other types include neglect in cases of child or elder abuse, financial in cases of elder abuse, and sexual exploitation and incest in cases of child abuse. All types could also potentially involve a reportable criminal act, such as rape.

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