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College Admission DANB-CDA Certified Dental Assistant Exam



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Question: 1

Which type of medication would be prescribed by a doctor to a patient who is suffering from high blood pressure?

- A. Antihypertensive.
- B. Anticonvulsant.
- C. Antipyretic.
- D. Antiglycemic.

Answer: A

Explanation:

When a patient is suffering from high blood pressure, she is said to be suffering from hypertension, so a doctor will commonly administer an antihypertensive medication to help in lowering the blood pressure. This may be combined at times with an antidiuretic that will allow for the body to remove excess water and therefore aid in reducing blood pressure.

Question: 2

What is the name given to the excisional surgical procedure in which the dental assistant aids the dentist in the surgical reshaping and contouring of the gingival tissue?

- A. Osseous surgery.
- B. Incisional surgery.
- C. Gingivoplasty.
- D. Gingivectomy.

Answer: C

Explanation:

During a gingivoplasty procedure the dental assistant will aid the dentist in the reshaping and contouring of the patient's gingival tissues. This is a type of excisional surgery in that it removes any excess tissue from the patient's oral cavity. During this surgery, the tissue is recontoured and formed to the desire of the patient.

Question: 3

During an endodontic procedure, which of the following instruments should the dental assistant set out for the dentist to use to detect the pulp canals?

- A. Endodontic explorer.
- B. Endodontic spreader.
- C. Broach.
- D. Reamer.

Answer: A

Explanation:

During an endodontic procedure, the dentist will use an endodontic explorer to locate the pulp canals of a tooth under treatment. The spreader will be used to force the gutta percha into the canals, and the broach and the reamer are used to remove the pulp from the tooth and to enlarge the pulp canal space.

Question: 4

Why must an alginate impression be left in a patient's mouth for the entire time specified by the manufacturer?

- A. The impression will revert back into the gel state if not left in the mouth for the correct time.
- B. The impression will develop air bubbles if not allowed to reach its final setting stages.
- C. The impression will fall apart if taken out prior to its final set.
- D. The impression will not be at full strength until that time period has elapsed.

Answer: D

Explanation:

When taking alginate impressions, the dental assistant must leave the impression in the mouth for the entire time specified by the manufacturer of the material. If this is not done, the alginate material will not be at its full strength. When the alginate is setting up, it may appear to look ready to remove, but it must continue to remain in the mouth until the correct time has elapsed.

Question: 5

Which of the following instruments will be used to pack in the amalgam material after it is placed within a preparation?

- A. Enamel hatchet.
- B. Amalgam condenser
- C. Football burnisher.
- D. Walls 3 carver.

Answer: C

Explanation:

After the crown preparation has been finalized and the tooth is ready, the dental assistant will transfer a loaded amalgam carrier to the dentist, followed by the amalgam condenser. This instrument will be used

to pack in or condense the amalgam into the preparation to ensure that there is no extra space left behind. The condenser comes in various sizes and angles to allow the dentist to reach all sizes and areas of all types of teeth.

Question: 6

What type of plan is necessary to assist with repairs for frequently used equipment in a dental office?

- A. Manufacturer warranty
- B. Service contract
- C. Equipment records including serial number and model
- D. Extended warranty

Answer: B

Explanation:

Equipment records are important for keeping track of the model, serial number, date of purchase, and any servicing the equipment received. A service contract is critical to the smooth functioning of the dental office. If any of the key pieces of equipment break down, a service contract would help to ensure a quick response for emergency repair needs. Some service contracts will also include preventive routine maintenance. Manufacturer warranties are also important and typically cover repair or replacement for a certain length of time. Warranty information should be included as part of the equipment records. Another way to repair equipment is a service call. These tend to be expensive because the fee is based on mileage, amount of time required to repair, and the expertise of the technician. Service calls are typically used as a last resort. The cause of the issue should be explored thoroughly before making a service call, such as checking to make sure power is intact, check the reset button, or check the fuse box.

Question: 7

Which of the following statements would be the most effective in communicating with an apprehensive patient?

- A. The next sound you hear will be the drill.
- B. We are preparing the tooth for restoration.
- C. You will likely feel a little pain initially but it will subside once the anesthetic kicks in.
- D. I am applying a topical anesthetic before the dentist comes in to give you the shot.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Dental fear or phobia is very real and how a patient is approached can make a big difference in future treatment. Verbal communication is very important. It is important to communicate with the patient in a way that he or she will understand. It is also important to make appropriate word choices to minimize the patient's reaction. Certain words, such as pain, shot, drill, or filling, may evoke fear or intimidation. Words that may be substituted include discomfort, anesthetic, prepare tooth, or restoration. These may

be more effective. Nonverbal communication is also important. The patient is able to observe body language, so it is important to show a positive, stress-free image to the patient. This can be accomplished by breathing slowly and deeply, using calm facial expressions, and having an overall positive attitude. Good listening skills are also essential.

Question: 8

How is inlay, or pattern wax, used?

- A. To create a die.
- B. To create an impression tray.
- C. To pour up a recently taken alginate impression.
- D. To pour up a final impression.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Pattern wax is melted on the die, which will form the wax pattern that is used to create the porcelain restoration. Beading wax, which is flexible, can be used to extend the length of an impression tray when taking impressions. Gypsum products are usually used to pour up alginate impressions, and to create study cast models. A stronger type of gypsum material is used to pour up the final impression.

Question: 9

Which of the following is the instrument that is used during surgical procedures to grasp soft tissue, bones, and remove any fragments that may have broken free during the procedure?

- A. Forceps.
- B. Scalpel.
- C. Needle holder.
- D. Hemostat.

Answer: D

Explanation:

The hemostat is an instrument that is used during oral surgery procedures for a variety of reasons. Some of these include aiding in the removal of tooth fragments that may have been produced during the procedure and also holding tissue and bone if necessary, during the procedure.

Question: 10

You observe creamy white lesions that look like cottage cheese on the tongue and cheeks of one of your patients. This patient likely has:

- A. herpes zoster.

- B. herpes simplex.
- C. lichen planus.
- D. oral candidiasis.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Oral candidiasis is an infection in the mouth caused by a yeast-like fungus named *Candida albicans*. It is also known as oral thrush. Symptoms include creamy white lesions that look like cottage cheese on the tongue or inner cheeks but may also appear on the gums, roof of the mouth, and tonsils. The lesions may bleed when scraped. If the lesions spread to the esophagus, difficulty swallowing may result. Patients who have a weakened immune system, have diabetes, or are receiving antibiotic therapy are at risk for developing this condition. Oral candidiasis is treated with a topical antifungal medication, such as nystatin, taken in the form of a lozenge or a liquid that is swished around in the mouth then spit out.

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