

Nurses' Final Examination – General Nurse Training

3RD JUNE, 1976

MEDICAL NURSING

Time allowed: Three hours

Important:—

Read the questions very carefully.

Answer only what is asked as no marks will be given for irrelevant material.

ALL questions are compulsory.

1. (a) Cardiac failure is a common manifestation of ischaemic heart disease.
 - (i) What clinical symptoms are characteristic of acute left ventricular failure? —[3 marks]
 - (ii) What conditions commonly precipitate acute left ventricular failure? —[3 marks]
 - (iii) What measures are taken by a nurse to relieve left ventricular failure? —[3 marks]
 - (b) (i) What signs are characteristic of right heart failure? —[3 marks]
 - (ii) What are the principles of treatment with specific regard to:—
 - (a) physical activity; —[3 marks]
 - (b) food and drink; —[3 marks]
 - (c) drugs? —[2 marks]
- [20 marks]
2. A young patient has been diagnosed recently as having diabetes mellitus and has been commenced on insulin.

State details of the education of the patient in relation to:—

 - (a) insulin and its administration; —[5 marks]
 - (b) insulin reaction (hypoglycaemia). —[5 marks]

—[10 marks]

- 3. A patient has been diagnosed as having pernicious anaemia.
 - (a) Explain the term "pernicious anaemia". —[2 marks]
 - (b) List four (4) tests or investigations which are carried out to aid in the diagnosis of this condition. —[2 marks]
 - (c) List the specific clinical features of this disease. —[3 marks]
 - (d) Name the specific drug used in treatment, and state the dosage, route and frequency of administration. —[2 marks]
 - (e) Name one (1) serious condition which may be associated with this disease. —[1 mark]

—[10 marks]

- 4. (a) Define ulcerative colitis. —[2 marks]
- (b) List the general symptoms and signs of this condition during an acute phase. —[2 marks]
- (c) State briefly, the principles of dietary management of ulcerative colitis. —[3 marks]
- (d) Give three (3) major local complications of ulcerative colitis. —[3 marks]

—[10 marks]

5. A patient is admitted with acute renal failure.

- (a) List four (4) conditions which may cause the development of acute renal failure. —[2 marks]
 - (b) How may acute renal failure be prevented in one of the conditions you have named in (a)? —[2 marks]
 - (c) What are the principles of dietary and fluid management of this patient? —[4 marks]
 - (d) List two (2) investigations commonly performed to aid in the assessment of the patient's progress. —[2 marks]
- [10 marks]

6. A child, eighteen (18) months of age, is admitted with acute laryngo-tracheobronchitis. Describe the management of this child during the acute phase.

—[10 marks]

7. What changes occur in the pulse in each of the following conditions?

- (a) Sinus arrhythmia.
 - (b) Uncontrolled atrial fibrillation.
 - (c) Complete heart block.
 - (d) Stokes-Adams' attack.
 - (e) Extrasystoles.
- [10 marks]

8. While attending the Outpatients' Department, a man, twenty-five (25) years of age, has a grand mal epileptic seizure.

- (a) Describe the various phases of a grand mal seizure. —[6 marks]
 - (b) Phenytoin sodium (Dilantin) is commonly prescribed for grand mal epilepsy. Excluding drowsiness, state two (2) other untoward effects of this drug. —[1 mark]
 - (c) Define status epilepticus. —[2 marks]
 - (d) State two (2) complications of status epilepticus. —[1 mark]
- [10 marks]

9. From the column of drugs on the left, select the specific or most appropriate adverse effect of each drug from the column on the right.

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| (i) Frusemide (Lasix). | (a) Blurred vision. |
| (ii) Atropine. | (b) Hypokalaemia. |
| (iii) Acetylsalicylic acid (Aspirin). | (c) Nerve deafness. |
| (iv) Chlorpromazine (Largactil). | (d) Coupling of beats. |
| (v) Digoxin. | (e) Jaundice. |
| (vi) Streptomycin. | (f) Peptic ulceration. |
| (vii) Tetracycline. | (g) Agranulocytosis. |
| (viii) Carbimazole (Neo-mercazole). | (h) Thrush. |
| (ix) Morphine sulphate. | (i) Palpitations. |
| (x) Adrenaline. | (j) Respiratory depression. |
- [10 marks]