

VICTORIAN NURSING COUNCIL

Nurses Act 1958

Nurses' Final Examination – General Nurse Training

2ND DECEMBER, 1976

MEDICAL NURSING

Time allowed : Three hours

Important:—

Read your questions very carefully.

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

ALL questions are compulsory.

1. A forty (40) year old man is admitted severely shocked following haematemesis and melaena. He has a history of gastric ulceration.
 - (a) State the immediate care of this patient. —[7 marks]
 - (b) What observations are made on admission and state the significance of these. —[5 marks]
 - (c) Describe the medical and nursing care required during the first 48 hours. —[9 marks]
 - (d) What health education is necessary prior to the patient's discharge ? —[4 marks]
—[25 marks]
2. An elderly man is recovering from an exacerbation of chronic bronchitis and emphysema.
 - (a) What major structural changes occur in the lungs in this condition ? —[2 marks]
 - (b) In preparation for discharge, what advice would you give the patient about the following aspects of his care :
 - (i) physical exertion ; —[2 marks]
 - (ii) use of an aerosol bronchodilator ; —[2 marks]
 - (iii) diet ; —[2 marks]
 - (iv) pulmonary physiotherapy and breathing ? —[2 marks]
—[10 marks]
3. A young adult is admitted with suspected bacterial meningitis.
 - (a) Name two (2) organisms that commonly cause bacterial meningitis. —[1 mark]
 - (b) List six (6) major symptoms and signs of meningitis. —[3 marks]
 - (c) Name one (1) specific diagnostic procedure and state significant findings. —[2 marks]
 - (d) Describe the nursing care of this patient under the following headings :—
 - (i) Observations. —[4 marks]
 - (ii) Patient comfort. —[2 marks]
 - (iii) Food and fluids. —[2 marks]
 - (e) Name two possible complications of meningitis. —[1 mark]
—[15 marks]
4. During the night a middle-aged patient develops acute pulmonary oedema.
 - (a) Name three (3) drugs (together with a suitable dosage and route of administration), which may be ordered to give relief to this patient. (Patient is already receiving digoxin). —[3 marks]
 - (b) What desired effects are anticipated from each drug listed in (a) and how would these relieve the patient's distress ? —[6 marks]
 - (c) How can you, the nurse, give emotional support to this patient ? —[1 mark]
—[10 marks]

5. A child aged six (6) years is admitted to the ward with acute glomerulonephritis.
- (a) What is the common cause of this condition? —[1 mark]
 - (b) (i) What observations would you make in order to detect the early onset of complications? —[3 marks]
 - (ii) Name three (3) major complications and explain how your observations would indicate their onset. —[6 marks]
- [10 marks]
6. (a) Explain how acute pyelonephritis differs from acute glomerulonephritis. —[4 marks]
- (b) Give three (3) common conditions which predispose to pyelonephritis and explain why this is so. —[6 marks]
- [10 marks]
7. (a) Define the term "haemolytic anaemia". —[1 mark]
- (b) State two causes of haemolytic anaemia. —[2 marks]
- (c) (i) State the cause of pernicious anaemia. —[2 marks]
- (ii) Outline the specific treatment of pernicious anaemia. —[1 mark]
- (iii) Name one (1) complication of pernicious anaemia. —[1 mark]
- (d) Why do persons suffering from haemophilia have an abnormal bleeding tendency? —[1 mark]
- (e) (i) Define purpura. —[1 mark]
- (ii) State one cause of purpura. —[1 mark]
- [10 marks]
8. (a) What do you understand by the term "myxoedema"? —[2 marks]
- (b) List two (2) possible causes of this condition. —[2 marks]
- (c) Give four (4) clinical features which would indicate that the patient was suffering from myxoedema? —[2 marks]
- (d) Name one specific test commonly ordered to aid in diagnosis of this condition? —[1 mark]
- (e) What specific drug would be ordered during treatment of myxoedema? —[1 mark]
- (f) What symptoms and signs would lead you to suspect that an overdosage of the drug you mention has occurred? —[2 marks]
- [10 marks]