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VICTORIAN NURSING COUNCIL

1976

Nurses' Final Examination—General Nurse Training

1st DECEMBER, 1976

SURGICAL 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.

NURSES' FINAL EXAMINATION—GENERAL NURSE TRAINING

SURGICAL NURSING

1st December, 1976.

1. A young man admitted with acute appendicitis had immediate surgery.
 - (a) Describe the following aspects:
 - (i) Post-anesthetic care (recovery room care) [4 marks]
 - (ii) Care of wound and drain tube [4 marks]
 - (b)
 - (i) Bronchopneumonia [2 marks]
 - (ii) Wound infection [2 marks]
 - (iii) Paralytic ileus [2 marks]
 2. Pulmonary embolism is a serious post-operative complication.
 - (a) What are the symptoms and signs of this complication? [4 marks]
 - (b) What drugs are given in the treatment of pulmonary embolism? [2 marks]
 - (c) What measures may be taken pre and post operatively to help prevent pulmonary embolism? [4 marks]
 3. Mr. Smith seventy five (75) years of age, has just returned from theatre, having had a trans-urethral resection (T.U.R.) of the prostate gland under spinal anaesthesia. The fat in three way catheter connected to a continuous bladder washout.
 - (a) Describe the following aspects of this patient's post operative care:
 - (i) Positioning of the patient for the first 24 hours. [2 marks]
 - (ii) Nursing management of his bladder. [8 marks]
 4.
 - (a) Define glaucoma. [1 mark]
 - (b) State the symptoms and signs of acute closed angle glaucoma. [3 marks]
 - (c) The patient has been ordered the following:—
 - (i) a miotic drug;
 - (ii) an osmotic diuretic;
 - (iii) a drug which reduces the production of aqueous humour.
- Give one example of each of the above and state the mode of action

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ALL questions are compulsory.

1. A young man admitted with acute appendicitis and peritonitis has had immediate surgery.
- (a) Describe the following aspects of his post-operative care :—
- (i) Post-anaesthetic care (recovery room care) —[4 marks]
 - (ii) Care of wound and drain tube. —[4 marks]
 - (iii) Hydration and nutrition. —[3 marks]
- (b) How may the following complications be recognized?
- (i) Bronchopneumonia. —[3 marks]
 - (ii) Wound infection. —[3 marks]
 - (iii) Paralytic ileus. —[3 marks]
- [20 marks]
2. Pulmonary embolism is a serious post-operative complication.
- (a) What are the symptoms and signs of this complication? —[4 marks]
- (b) What drugs are given in the treatment of pulmonary embolism? —[2 marks]
- (c) What measures may be taken pre and post operatively to help prevent pulmonary embolism? —[4 marks]
- [10 marks]
3. Mr. Smith, seventy five (75) years of age, has just returned from theatre, having had a trans-urethral resection (T.U.R.) of the prostate gland under spinal anaesthetic. He has a three way catheter connected to a continuous bladder washout.
- Describe the following aspects of this patient's post operative care :—
- (a) Positioning of the patient for the first 24 hours. —[2 marks]
- (b) Nursing management of his bladder. —[8 marks]
- [10 marks]
4. (a) Define glaucoma. —[1 mark]
- (b) State the symptoms and signs of acute closed angle glaucoma. —[3 marks]
- (c) The patient has been ordered the following :—
- (i) a miotic drug ;
 - (ii) an osmotic diuretic ;
 - (iii) a drug which reduces the production of aqueous humour.
- Give one example of each of the above and state the mode of action of each. —[6 marks]
- [10 marks]

5. A young man undergoes a mid-thigh amputation of his left leg following a motor car accident.

Describe the following aspects of his post-operative care:—

- (a) prevention of flexion deformity of the hip ; —[5 marks]
 (b) wound care and preparation of stump for prosthesis ; —[6 marks]
 (c) in what ways may the nurse help this young man to adjust to his disability. —[4 marks]
 —[15 marks]

6. Mrs. Brown aged 25 years, has been admitted suffering from a fractured base of skull. She has been unconscious since admission.

- (a) What observations are necessary while she is unconscious and state the significance of any changes in these. —[8 marks]
 (b) Describe the following aspects of nursing care :—
 (i) prevention of pressure sores. —[3 marks]
 (ii) care of the bladder. —[2 marks]
 (iii) hydration and nutrition. —[2 marks]
 —[15 marks]

7. Mrs. James is admitted to your ward for a sub-total thyroidectomy for thyrotoxicosis.

- (a) Define the words underlined. —[2 marks]
 (b) What specific pre-operative investigations may be performed ? Indicate the reasons for these. —[3 marks]
 (c) Why might Lugol's Iodine be given prior to operation ? —[1 mark]
 (d) Post-operatively, if the following signs and symptoms occur during the care of Mrs. James, what may they indicate ?
 (i) Persistent hoarseness.
 (ii) Tachycardia, restlessness and hyperpyrexia.
 (iii) Carpopedal spasm. —[3 marks]
 (e) What treatment will be ordered and given for carpopedal spasm ? —[1 mark]
 —[10 marks]

8. Clostridium tetani is an anaerobic spore bearing bacillus.

- (a) What is meant by the terms underlined ? —[2 marks]
 (b) Name one (1) other member of the clostridia family that may have serious consequences if it contaminates a wound offering optimal conditions for its growth. —[1 mark]
 (c) Define :
 (i) active immunization ; —[2 marks]
 (ii) passive immunization. —[2 marks]
 (d) What immunization is necessary to protect a patient not previously immunized against tetanus ? —[3 marks]
 —[10 marks]