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VICTORIAN NURSING COUNCIL

Nurses Act 1958

Nurses' Final Examination—General Nurse Training

3RD AND 4TH NOVEMBER, 1965

SURGICAL NURSING

Time allowed: Three hours

Important: Read the questions carefully, and answer only what is asked, as no marks will be given for irrelevant material.

ALL questions compulsory.

1. An elderly man is admitted with acute retention of urine due to benign enlargement of the prostate gland.
 - (a) What immediate measures may be employed in the management of this condition? —[5 marks]
 - (b) What pre-operative investigations are required before subsequent prostatectomy? —[5 marks]
 - (c) Assuming a transurethral resection is performed, describe in detail the post-operative nursing care and emphasize recognition of the particular complications of this operation, their prevention and treatment. —[20 marks]—[30 marks]
2. A woman aged 35 years is returned to the ward following a thyroidectomy.
 - (a) Describe the observation and management of a patient following this operation. —[5 marks]
 - (b) Discuss, in detail, the complications which may follow this operation. —[15 marks]—[20 marks]
3. State the strength and type of lotion you would provide or use for each of the following:—
 - (a) abdominal skin preparation;
 - (b) perineal skin preparation;
 - (c) skin preparation of the donor skin site from where a graft is to be taken;
 - (d) surgical cleansing of the vagina;
 - (e) irrigation of the eye (conjunctival sac).—[10 marks]
4. A patient is found to have pus discharging from an infected wound following surgery.

Describe the nursing management of this patient under the headings:—

 - (i) Dressing of the wound. —[5 marks]
 - (ii) Prevention of transfer of infection to other patients. —[5 marks]—[10 marks]
5. What nursing measures are important in the management of a patient with recent embolism of the femoral artery, resulting in ischaemia of the limb? —[10 marks]
6. A patient is admitted with suspected injury of the kidney.
 - (a) What observations would you make?
 - (b) State how these observations assist in assessing the patient's progress.—[10 marks]
7.
 - (a) Name the four (4) blood groups. —[1 mark]
 - (b) What observations would you make to recognize damaged or deteriorated blood prior to its use for transfusion? —[2 marks]
 - (c) List the signs and symptoms of a reaction to an incompatible blood transfusion. —[4 marks]
 - (d) A blood transfusion is not dripping at the ordered rate despite adjustment to the tubing clamp. What nursing measures could be adopted to correct the rate of flow? —[3 marks]—[10 marks]