

3795.13

VICTORIAN NURSING COUNCIL

Nurses Act 1958

Registration Examination — (General Nurses)

8TH AUGUST, 1979

SURGICAL 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.

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1. Mr. Jones, 75 years of age, is admitted with acute on chronic retention of urine, due to an enlarged prostate gland. A trans-urethral resection is to be performed in 2 days' time.
 - (a) State the symptoms and signs of acute on chronic retention of urine due to an enlarged prostate gland.—[3 marks]
 - (b) What diagnostic tests are likely to be performed to test the kidney and bladder function prior to operation? —[2 marks]
 - (c) Following the operation, Mr. Jones is returned to the ward with a 3-way Foley catheter in place, connected to a continuous bladder washout apparatus and a urinary drainage bag.
 - (i) Describe the measures taken to ensure that urinary tract infection does not occur. —[4 marks]
 - (ii) How would clot retention be prevented? —[3 marks]
 - (iii) How is clot retention recognised? —[3 marks]

—[15 marks]

 2. A patient is admitted with obstructive jaundice due to a stone in the common bile duct.
 - (a) Explain why Vitamin K is ordered pre-operatively. —[2 marks]
 - (b) Describe the care of the patient's T-tube following choledochostomy. —[4 marks]
 - (c) What observations would indicate patency of the common bile duct prior to the removal of the T-tube? —[4 marks]

—[10 marks]

 3. Pulmonary embolism is a serious post-operative complication.
 - (a) What significant symptoms and signs would indicate the onset of this complication? —[4 marks]
 - (b) What drugs would be given in the treatment of pulmonary embolism? State the route, dosage and action of these drugs. —[6 marks]
 - (c) State four (4) nursing measures which should be taken to prevent pulmonary embolism. —[2 marks]

—[12 marks]

4. Miss Spring, 35 years of age, is admitted for a haemorrhoidectomy operation.
- (a) What are haemorrhoids? —[1 mark]
 - (b) State the specific symptoms of haemorrhoids. —[1 mark]
 - (c) Outline the specific pre-operative preparation of Miss Spring for haemorrhoidectomy. —[4 marks]
 - (d) Describe the specific post-operative nursing care of this patient for the first five days. —[6 marks]
- [12 marks]

5. As the result of a motor car accident, Bobby Jones, 19 years of age, is suffering from multiple rib fractures causing paradoxical movement of the chest. He has a temporary tracheostomy. The tracheostomy tube is a cuffed tube and Bobby is receiving "positive pressure" ventilation from a Bird respirator.
- (a) Why is a cuffed tube being used? —[1 mark]
 - (b) Describe the nursing care of this patient's tracheostomy. —[6 marks]
 - (c) How would the nurse recognise that the tracheostomy tube was obstructed? —[3 marks]
- [10 marks]

6. A young bushfire fighter with 30% burns to face, neck and anterior chest is admitted to the ward. Explain why the following actions may be taken during the initial stages of care.
- (a) The provision of equipment for respiratory resuscitation. —[2 marks]
 - (b) The introduction and aspiration of a nasogastric tube. —[2 marks]
 - (c) Recording of all fluid intake and output, including hourly urine measurements. —[2 marks]
 - (d) The establishment of intravenous therapy. —[2 marks]
 - (e) The estimation of the percentage of burn surface. —[2 marks]
- [10 marks]

7. (a) State three (3) causes of small bowel obstruction. —[3 marks]
- (b) How would a plain abdominal X-ray confirm the diagnosis of intestinal obstruction? —[1 mark]
- (c) Describe the post-operative management of a patient following resection of part of the small intestine and end to end anastomosis, using the following headings:—
- (i) nutritional needs, —[3 marks]
 - (ii) care of drain tube and wound. —[3 marks]
- [10 marks]

8. A patient is having a blood transfusion.
- (a) What signs could indicate that the patient's circulation was becoming overloaded? —[2 marks]
 - (b) (i) What may be observed in the patient during infusion of the first 100 ml. that could indicate a haemolytic reaction had occurred? —[3 marks]
 - (ii) What immediate action should the nurse take if a haemolytic reaction did occur? —[2 marks]
- [7 marks]

9. A jockey has been kicked by a horse and sustains a compound fracture of his right tibia and fibula.

- (a) What is meant by:—
- (i) compound fracture, —[1 mark]
 - (ii) comminuted fracture? —[1 mark]
- (b) Why is a compound fracture regarded as a tetanus prone wound? —[1 mark]
- (c) This patient has previously received prophylactic immunisation against tetanus, but requires further immunisation.
- (i) What substance and dosage will be given? —[1 mark]
 - (ii) What type of immunity will this produce? —[1 mark]
- [5 marks]

10. A baby is born with a meningomyelocele.

- (a) What anatomical abnormality is involved in this condition? —[1 mark]
- (b) Hydrocephalus and neurogenic bladder are two (2) conditions which may accompany spina bifida. State what the underlined terms mean and outline the surgery to relieve them. —[4 marks]
- (c) What neurological defect is often present with meningomyelocele? —[1 mark]
- [6 marks]

11. What term is used to describe the following:—

- (a) prolapse of the urinary bladder into the vagina, —[½ mark]
 - (b) air in the tissues, —[½ mark]
 - (c) twisting of the bowel, —[½ mark]
 - (d) a malignant condition of connective tissue, —[½ mark]
 - (e) discharge from the ear, —[½ mark]
 - (f) operation for repair of deviated nasal septum? —[½ mark]
- [3 marks]