

REGISTRATION EXAMINATION—(General Nurses)

THE NURSING BOARD

REGISTRATION EXAMINATION—(GENERAL NURSES)

SURGICAL NURSING

4th JUNE, 1980

1. A patient is admitted to hospital with a stab wound to the abdomen. The patient is conscious and alert.
- Describe the nursing care of the patient in the first 24 hours of admission. (10 marks)
 - State two (2) causes of peritonitis. (2 marks)
 - What general changes would you expect to observe in a patient with peritonitis? (2 marks)
 - State two (2) signs and symptoms of peritonitis. (2 marks)
 - Describe the nursing care of the patient in the first 24 hours of admission. (10 marks)
2. A patient is admitted to hospital with a stab wound to the abdomen. The patient is unconscious and has a respiratory rate of 12 breaths per minute.
- Describe the nursing care of the patient in the first 24 hours of admission. (10 marks)
 - State two (2) causes of respiratory depression. (2 marks)
 - What general changes would you expect to observe in a patient with respiratory depression? (2 marks)
 - State two (2) signs and symptoms of respiratory depression. (2 marks)
 - Describe the nursing care of the patient in the first 24 hours of admission. (10 marks)
3. A patient is admitted to hospital with a stab wound to the abdomen. The patient is conscious and alert.
- Describe the nursing care of the patient in the first 24 hours of admission. (10 marks)
 - State two (2) causes of shock. (2 marks)
 - What general changes would you expect to observe in a patient with shock? (2 marks)
 - State two (2) signs and symptoms of shock. (2 marks)
 - Describe the nursing care of the patient in the first 24 hours of admission. (10 marks)

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VICTORIAN NURSING COUNCIL

Nurses Act 1958

Registration Examination—(General Nurses)

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SECTION B

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) Define:—
 (i) cholecystitis,
 (ii) cholelithiasis. —[2 marks]
- (b) A patient is admitted to hospital with biliary colic.
 Describe the treatment given on admission. —[5 marks]
- (c) Name two (2) complications which could occur if this patient is not treated. —[2 marks]
- (d) Subsequently, cholecystectomy and choledochostomy are performed.
 Define the underlined words. —[2 marks]
- (e) Two (2) drain tubes are necessary post-operatively. Outline the care of:—
 (i) abdominal drain, —[3 marks]
 (ii) T-tube drain. —[4 marks]
- (f) Indicate the criteria for removal of the T-tube. —[2 marks]
- [20 marks]
2. A male patient is admitted with suspected rupture of spleen. He is fairly comfortable on admission.
- (a) Name two (2) causes of ruptured spleen. —[2 marks]
- (b) What general changes would lead the nurse to suspect concealed haemorrhage? —[3 marks]
- (c) Splenectomy is performed.
 (i) Name two (2) likely sites for the incision. —[2 marks]
 (ii) Describe the nursing care of this patient in the first 24 hours following surgery. —[7 marks]
- [14 marks]

3. A patient is to have a blood transfusion.

- (a) During transfusion of the first 100–150 ml., what changes in the patient's condition might indicate that incompatibility (haemolytic reaction) is taking place? —[4 marks]
- (b) What immediate action should be taken if a haemolytic reaction did occur? —[2 marks]
- (c) What precautions must be taken prior to the connection of each unit of cross-matched blood to the transfusion set? —[4 marks]
- [10 marks]

4. (a) List four (4) common causes of peritonitis. —[2 marks]

(b) List the symptoms and signs of peritonitis. —[3 marks]

(c) Describe the specific medical and surgical treatment of the patient with the condition of an inflamed peritoneum. —[5 marks]

—[10 marks]

5. A 6-year-old child has a tonsillectomy.

(a) In the Recovery Room:—

(i) How is an adequate airway maintained? —[2 marks]

(ii) What observations would indicate the possibility of abnormal blood loss? —[2 marks]

(b) In the Ward:—

How does the nurse ensure adequate:—

(i) hydration, —[1 mark]

(ii) nutrition? —[1 mark]

(c) Compare and contrast—secondary haemorrhage, —[2 marks]
—reactionary haemorrhage.

(d) What instructions should be given to the parents of this child prior to discharge? —[2 marks]

—[10 marks]

6. An elderly gentleman is admitted to the ward for right cataract extraction. He has very little sight in his left eye.

(a) Define what is meant by cataract. —[1 mark]

(b) What emotional preparation is given this gentleman prior to his operation which would help him cope with the post-operative stage of his illness? —[5 marks]

—[6 marks]