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VICTORIAN NURSING COUNCIL

Nurses Act 1958

Registration Examination—(General Nurses)

2ND DECEMBER, 1981

SURGICAL NURSING

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. Mr John Jenkins, 42 years of age, is admitted to hospital, and diagnosed as having carcinoma of the caecum.
- (a) With what symptoms and signs may this patient have presented? —[2 marks]
 - (b) How is the diagnosis established? —[2 marks]
 - (c) What are the principles involved in operations for carcinoma of the colon? —[2 marks]
 - (d) Describe the post-operative care of this patient who has undergone a right hemi-colectomy under the following headings:—
 - (i) Hydration and commencement of oral feedings. —[4 marks]
 - (ii) Bowel management. —[2 marks]
 - (iii) Care of wound. —[2 marks]
 - (iv) Recognition of specific complications. —[3 marks]
 - (e) Outline the psychological implications of this operation for the patient. —[3 marks]
- [20 marks]
2. (a) List four (4) factors which predispose to post-operative respiratory complications. —[2 marks]
- (b) Explain two (2) nursing measures aimed at prevention of respiratory complications. —[2 marks]
- (c) List the symptoms and signs of acute atelectasis. —[2 marks]
- (d) List the symptoms and signs which may occur with deep vein thrombosis. —[2 marks]
- (e) In point form, outline nursing care aimed at prevention of deep vein thrombosis in a post-operative patient. —[2 marks]
- [10 marks]

3. A man has sustained a compound fracture of the tibia and fibula in a motor car accident.

- (a) Define the term underlined. —[2 marks]
 (b) Name two (2) microorganisms which may infect the wound. —[1 mark]
 (c) Describe the immediate care of this patient on admission. —[6 marks]
 (d) After open reduction, the limb is encased in a plaster cast. Describe the care of the limb in plaster. —[4 marks] —[13 marks]

4. The aims of bladder care in a patient following prostatectomy are to prevent clot retention and infection.

- (a) What nursing measures are employed to achieve these aims? —[5 marks]
 (b) What would lead one to suspect that the patient may be developing clot retention? —[2 marks]
 (c) What nursing actions may be necessary should the patient develop clot retention? —[2 marks] —[9 marks]

5. A conscious patient has a temporary tracheostomy and a cuffed tube is in position. What nursing measures are taken to prevent:—

- (a) infection —[2 marks]
 (b) respiratory obstruction —[3 marks]
 (c) development of undue anxiety in the patient? —[2 marks] —[7 marks]

6. (a) A female patient is admitted to the ward with a cystocele.

- (i) Define this condition.
 Why may this patient have sought medical advice? —[1 mark]
 (ii) State two (2) symptoms of this condition. —[1 mark]
 (iii) What surgical treatment may be undertaken for this condition? —[1 mark]

(b) What term is used to describe the operation in which the uterus, the upper part of the vagina, both uterine (Fallopian) tubes and ovaries are removed? —[1 mark]

(c) Define each of the following and state the reason why each is performed:—

- (i) hysterosalpingogram —[1 mark]
 (ii) cone biopsy of the cervix. —[1 mark] —[6 marks]

7. Outline the management of a corneal foreign body including first aid, removal of foreign body and subsequent care. —[5 marks]