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REGISTRATION EXAMINATION—(GENERAL NURSES)

SURGICAL NURSING

2nd JUNE, 1982

VICTORIAN NURSING COUNCIL

Nurses Act 1958

Registration Examination—(General Nurses)

2ND JUNE, 1982

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. A young man is admitted to hospital suffering multiple injuries following a motor bike accident. He has multiple lacerations, a history of transient unconsciousness but the extent of injuries is unknown.
- (a) Outline the immediate nursing management of this patient on admission to the ward. —[6 marks]
 - (b) What *specific* changes in observations would suggest the development of the following:—
 - (i) tension pneumothorax —[3 marks]
 - (ii) ruptured spleen —[3 marks]
 - (iii) raised intracranial pressure? —[4 marks]
 - (c) Define:—
 - (i) cardiac tamponade —[2 marks]
 - (ii) surgical emphysema. —[2 marks]
- [20 marks]
2. A young man has sustained a compound fracture of the left tibia and fibula in a motor cycle accident.
- (a) What measures could be used on admission to combat shock? —[4 marks]
 - (b) He has not previously been immunised against tetanus. State the name and dosage of a prophylactic injection against tetanus which will give immediate protection. —[1 mark]
 - (c) What type of immunity will this confer? —[1 mark]
 - (d) It is proposed to transfer the patient to theatre for debridement of the wound and reduction and immobilization of the fracture.
 - (i) Define the words that are underlined. —[3 marks]
 - (ii) What method of immobilization may be used in this case? —[1 mark]
- [10 marks]

3. Appendicitis is common in young people.

- (a) State four (4) symptoms and signs with which a patient would present. —[2 marks]
- (b) Briefly describe the surgery to correct this condition. —[3 marks]
- (c) If the appendix ruptures, peritonitis and paralytic ileus could rapidly develop.
- (i) How would these two (2) conditions be recognised? —[2 marks]
- (ii) List the nursing responsibilities in relation to the nasogastric tube which may be inserted. —[3 marks]
- [10 marks]

4. (a) What is meant by the term "abortion"? —[1 mark]

- (b) Detail the nursing management of a patient admitted to your ward with the provisional diagnosis of threatened abortion. —[8 marks]
- [9 marks]

5. (a) You are caring for a patient who is having a blood transfusion. What is the importance of the following?

- (i) Grouping and cross matching of the blood prior to transfusion. —[2 marks]
- (ii) Regulating the transfusion drip rate to run slowly in an anaemic patient. —[2 marks]
- (iii) The occurrence of one or all of the following symptoms and signs; loin pain, headache, hypotension, pyrexia, tachycardia. —[1 mark]

(b) What are the indications for use of the following?

- (i) Packed cells. —[1 mark]
- (ii) Serum plasma protein. —[1 mark]
- (iii) Fibrinogen. —[1 mark]

- (c) Enumerate the precautions taken to ensure that the correct blood is given to the correct patient. —[2 marks]
- [10 marks]

6. Mary, 5 years of age, has returned to the ward following tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy.

- (a) Describe the observations made in the next 24 hours and indicate their significance. —[2½ marks]
- (b) What instructions are given to Mary's mother prior to Mary's discharge the following day? —[2½ marks]
- [5 marks]

7. Mrs Bell, 48 years of age, is assigned to your care after she has undergone an abdominoperineal resection of the rectum. She returns to the ward with an indwelling urinary catheter, a perineal draitube and a colostomy.

- (a) List two (2) reasons why the indwelling urinary catheter would be used. —[1 mark]
- (b) Describe the care of Mrs Bell's perineal wound and draitube including how she would be made comfortable. —[5 marks]
- [6 marks]