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Registration Examination—(General Nurses)

6th April 1983

REGISTRATION EXAMINATION—(GENERAL NURSES)

SURGICAL NURSING

6th APRIL, 1983

VICTORIAN NURSING COUNCIL

Nurses Act 1958

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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 man, 60 years of age, is admitted to the ward to undergo abdomino-perineal excision of the rectum for carcinoma.
- (a) Why would this particular operation be indicated? —[1 mark]
 - (b) How can the patient be helped to accept the need for a permanent colostomy? —[4 marks]
 - (c) Describe the specific pre-operative preparation of this patient's bowel. —[5 marks]
 - (d) Describe the nursing care of the perineal wound. —[5 marks]
 - (e) Describe how the nurse can help the patient care for his colostomy. —[2 marks]
 - (f) Briefly explain three (3) complications which may affect the colostomy. —[3 marks]
- [20 marks]
2. (a) State four (4) predisposing causes of deep venous thrombosis specific to the surgical patient. —[2 marks]
- (b) What symptoms and signs may be present in this condition? —[2 marks]
 - (c) Outline the treatment for a patient with deep venous thrombosis. —[2 marks]
 - (d) How may this condition be prevented? —[4 marks]
- [10 marks]
3. A patient is to receive a blood transfusion.
- (a) How long may whole blood be stored at a blood bank? —[1 mark]
 - (b) What measures are undertaken to ensure that the correct unit of blood is connected to the giving set? —[4 marks]
 - (c) Name a commonly used drug in the treatment of an allergic reaction to blood. —[1 mark]
 - (d) A haemolytic reaction to blood is suspected.
 - (i) Name four (4) specific symptoms and/or signs which would lead the nurse to suspect the onset of this complication. —[2 marks]
 - (ii) Why is the doctor likely to order immediate catheterization of the bladder? —[1 mark]
 - (iii) Name two (2) causes of haemolytic reaction. —[1 mark]
- [10 marks]

4. (a) Define paralytic ileus. —[2 marks]
- (b) What observations indicate the onset of paralytic ileus in the early post-operative period? —[3 marks]
- (c) Describe the medical and nursing management of a patient with paralytic ileus. —[5 marks]
- [10 marks]
5. Alternate sutures as ordered by the doctor have just been removed from a middle-aged female patient who had a laparotomy and bowel resection 8 days ago. She is being made comfortable when she has a coughing fit and experiences a burst abdomen.
- (a) State the local and general factors which may have predisposed to this condition. —[4 marks]
- (b) How would this emergency situation be managed, assuming that loops of bowel have escaped? —[5 marks]
- [9 marks]
6. Shock is a condition which affects many trauma victims. Certain nursing measures are taken with all post surgery patients to reduce the chances of shock developing. List three (3) of these and state why they are expected to be effective. —[6 marks]
7. Nurses often have the opportunity to educate patients in breast self-examination for detection of cancer. Describe the method of self-examination which should be taught. —[5 marks]