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REGISTRATION EXAMINATION—(GENERAL NURSES)

SURGICAL NURSING

4th APRIL, 1984

VICTORIAN NURSING COUNCIL

Nurses Act 1958

Registration Examination—(General Nurses)

4TH APRIL, 1984

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. Mrs Williams, 38 years of age, a mother of three school-aged children is admitted for right radical mastectomy. Carcinoma of the breast has been confirmed.
- (a) What presenting symptoms or signs would have caused Mrs Williams to seek medical advice? —[2 marks]
- (b) On admission to the ward, Mrs Williams is apprehensive about the impending surgery and her future. Describe how Mrs Williams would be assisted to overcome her fears and anxieties in the pre-operative and post-operative period. —[6 marks]
- (c) On return to the ward from recovery room, Mrs Williams is conscious and co-operative. Describe the specific nursing management of this patient post-operatively using the following headings:—
- (i) observations —[2 marks]
- (ii) wound care —[4 marks]
- (iii) prevention of complications. —[4 marks]
- [18 marks]
2. A 50 year old man with a diagnosis of strangulated hernia has been admitted to the ward.
- (a) (i) Define strangulated hernia. —[2 marks]
- (ii) Briefly outline the specific pre-operative treatment for this patient. —[3 marks]
- (b) Some time later the patient is returned to the ward from the recovery room. The operation performed was bowel resection and anastomosis in addition to repair of the hernia.
- Describe the specific post-operative care of this patient with particular emphasis on nursing care. —[8 marks]
- [13 marks]
3. (a) Explain what is meant by hypovolaemic shock. —[2 marks]
- (b) What symptoms and signs would likely be evident, in hypovolaemic shock? —[5 marks]
- (c) Describe the treatment likely to be initiated to treat the shock, and describe the nursing responsibilities in relation to this treatment. —[8 marks]
- [15 marks]
4. (a) Describe the specific pre-operative and post-operative care of a patient having a bronchoscopy. —[4 marks]
- (b) State two (2) reasons why a bronchoscopy may be performed. —[2 marks]
- [6 marks]

5. A young man is admitted to hospital with a tetanus prone wound.
- (a) What circumstances predispose to infection by *Clostridium tetani*? —[2 marks]
 - (b) What is the incubation period of tetanus? —[1 mark]
 - (c) What are the early symptoms and signs of tetanus? —[1 mark]
 - (d) The patient has never been immunized against tetanus. What immunization should be given to protect him now and in the future? Give full details. —[4 marks]
- [8 marks]
6. List the nursing observations of a patient in the first 4 hours following a severe blow on the head. Indicate the significance of these observations. —[10 marks]