

3795: 52/12a

VICTORIAN NURSING COUNCIL

Nurses Act 1958

Registration Examination—(General Nurses)

3RD JUNE 1987

SURGICAL NURSING

SECTION B

Important:—

Read the questions and instructions very carefully.

Answer only what is asked as no marks will be given for irrelevant material.

ALL questions are compulsory.

1. Mr Siers, a 55 year old carpenter, is admitted to your ward with carcinoma of the rectum. He is to undergo the operation of abdominoperineal resection in three days time.
- (a) Give the reason for intensive bowel preparation prior to this type of surgery. —[1 mark]
  - (b) Describe the post-operative nursing management to ensure maintenance of fluid and nutritional needs. —[3 marks]
  - (c) Describe the post-operative nursing management of wounds and drain tubes of this patient up to the time of his discharge from hospital. —[8 marks]
- [12 marks]
2. Describe briefly what is meant by the following methods of treating burns.
- (a) (i) Open method. —[1½ marks]
  - (ii) Closed method. —[1½ marks]
  - (b) What body areas are most likely to be treated by:
    - (i) Open method. —[1 mark]
    - (ii) Closed method. —[1 mark]
  - (c) In the treatment of burns over a large area of the body surface, what is the main purpose of each of the following?
    - (i) Plasma transfusion —[1 mark]
    - (ii) Catheterization —[1 mark]
    - (iii) Haematocrit estimation —[1 mark]
    - (iv) Debridement —[1 mark]
    - (v) High protein, vitamin rich diet. —[1 mark]
- [10 marks]
3. An elderly male patient is admitted to the ward with an acute embolism of the femoral artery.
- (a) List the symptoms and signs of this condition. —[4 marks]
  - (b) Describe the post-operative management of this patient following embolectomy. —[5 marks]
- [9 marks]
4. A patient is admitted with the diagnosis of acute closed angle glaucoma.
- (a) List six (6) symptoms and signs which may be present. —[3 marks]
  - (b) Suggest two (2) specific drugs with different actions which may be ordered for this patient, and the reason for the use of each drug. —[2 marks]
- [5 marks]

5. The surgical patient is liable to post-operative complications which include deep venous thrombosis and atelectasis.
- (a) List the clinical features of deep venous thrombosis. —[3 marks]
- (b) Define atelectasis. —[1 mark]
- (c) List the treatment of atelectasis. —[3 marks]
- [7 marks]
6. (a) State two (2) common symptoms associated with spontaneous pneumothorax. —[1 mark]
- (b) State two (2) early signs of hypoxia. —[1 mark]
- (c) Why is a tension pneumothorax treated immediately on recognition? —[2 marks]
- (d) How is a tension pneumothorax treated in an emergency? —[1 mark]
- [5 marks]
7. (a) State the anatomical position of the thyroid gland and its associated organs. —[2 marks]
- (b) Following return to the ward after a sub-total thyroidectomy describe the aspects of the post-operative care under the following headings:
- (i) position in which the patient is to be nursed following recovery from anaesthesia. —[2 marks]
- (ii) emergency equipment to be ready nearby. —[2 marks]
- (iii) fluids and diet. —[2 marks]
- (c) What symptoms and signs would indicate the onset of each of the following complications?
- What treatment would be necessary in each case?
- (i) Reactionary haemorrhage. —[4 marks]
- (ii) Tetany. —[2 marks]
- [14 marks]
8. Mrs Leonie Kovac, 34 years of age, mother of two young children, is admitted to hospital with menorrhagia. Endometrial carcinoma is diagnosed and pan hysterectomy is recommended.
- (a) Define the term menorrhagia. —[1 mark]
- (b) Identify two (2) causes of menorrhagia (other than endometrial carcinoma). —[1 mark]
- (c) Discuss the nursing management of Mrs Kovac prior to surgery. —[6 marks]
- [8 marks]