

Free PDF Quiz AACN - CCRN-Pediatric - Pass-Sure Critical Care Nursing Exam Clearer Explanation

CCRN Pediatric Practice Exam Questions from AACN 150 Questions, Answers, and Rationale from AACN Practice Book

To promote effective grieving in a 6-year-old sibling following the death of an infant, the nurse should:

- A) Recommend that the sibling not attend the infant's memorial service
 - B) Encourage the parents to minimize their expression of grief with the sibling
 - C) Explain to the sibling that the infant went to heaven
 - D) Explain to the sibling that thoughts and wishes did not cause the infant's death
- Correct Answer: Answer: D) Explain to the sibling that thoughts and wishes did not cause the infant's death: At age 6, children may take words literally and because of their egocentrism, they believe that thoughts are all-powerful. They may truly believe they caused the death of their sibling. A simple, honest explanation of why the sibling died is indicated. This intervention is consistent with Caring Processes.
- A) Recommend that the sibling not attend the infant's memorial service: This intervention is not a solution to the problem and will not promote effective grieving for the sibling. It is not consistent with Caring Processes.
- B) Encourage the parents to minimize their expression of grief with the sibling: This intervention will lead to ineffective grieving for the sibling and is not consistent with Caring Processes.
- C) Explain to the sibling that the infant went to heaven: This intervention will not address the sibling's problem.

A 5-year-old with a history of congenital hydrocephalus and VP shunt placement at four weeks of age is admitted with increased somnolence, decreased appetite, and increased complaints of headache. This morning the child vomited twice. The nurse should anticipate:

- A) The physician ordering lumbar puncture and blood and urine cultures
 - B) the patient having a CT scan followed by possible shunt revision
 - C) Administering mannitol or hypertonic saline
 - D) Administering phenytoin (Dilantin) or fosphenytoin (Cerebyx)
- Correct Answer: Answer: B) The patient having a CT scan followed by possible shunt revision: This patient is demonstrating signs of increased intracranial pressure. The most likely etiology is malfunction of the VP shunt as a result of blockage or disconnection, which is particularly likely over time as the child grows. The definitive diagnosis is made by a CT scan and a shunt series. Surgical intervention for a shunt revision would be indicated.
- A) The physician ordering lumbar puncture and blood and urine cultures: These interventions will not address the most likely primary problem, which is suspected VP shunt malfunction. Additionally, lumbar puncture is contraindicated in the presence of increased intracranial pressure, because downward herniation of the brainstem can occur.
- C) Administering mannitol or hypertonic saline: These medication are indicated for the medical management of increased intracranial pressure, of which this patient has symptoms. However, they will not address the most likely primary problem, which is suspected VP shunt malfunction.
- D) Administering phenytoin (Dilantin) or fosphenytoin (Cerebyx): These medications are indicated for seizure management and would not address the patient's most likely primary problem, which is suspected increased intracranial pressure as a result of VP shunt malfunction.

An adolescent trauma patient is complaining of left upper quadrant abdominal pain radiating to the left shoulder. Blood pressure has dropped to 80/50. Which condition is most likely?

- A) Small Bowel Injury
- B) Cardiac Contusion

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AACN Critical Care Nursing Exam Sample Questions (Q26-Q31):

NEW QUESTION # 26

An infant presents with poor feeding and a blood glucose level of 50 mg/dL. A nurse should assess for which of the following symptoms?

- A. Hyperthermia and tachycardia
- **B. Hypothermia and apnea**
- C. Hyperthermia and irritability
- D. Flushed skin and tachycardia

Answer: B

Explanation:

In neonates and infants, hypoglycemia is often symptomatically silent or presents with nonspecific signs, including hypothermia, lethargy, and apnea. These can quickly progress to seizures or coma if not corrected.

"Hypoglycemia in infants may manifest as apnea, poor feeding, jitteriness, or hypothermia. Immediate intervention is required to prevent neurological injury." (Referenced from CCRN Pediatric - Direct Care: Endocrine Function and Metabolic Monitoring)

NEW QUESTION # 27

During an exchange transfusion for sickle cell crisis, the patient becomes anxious and reports tingling and numbness around the mouth. The nurse should administer:

- A. Potassium
- **B. Calcium**
- C. Magnesium
- D. Lorazepam

Answer: B

Explanation:

Citrate, a preservative used in banked blood, binds with calcium, causing hypocalcemia—a known complication of rapid or large-volume transfusions like exchange transfusion. Symptoms include perioral tingling, numbness, muscle twitching, and anxiety. Administration of IV calcium gluconate or calcium chloride is indicated.

"Rapid transfusion of blood products can result in hypocalcemia due to citrate toxicity. Signs include tingling, muscle irritability, and anxiety. Calcium replacement is required." (Referenced from CCRN Pediatric - Direct Care: Hematology, Transfusion Reactions and Electrolyte Management)

NEW QUESTION # 28

A patient has visitors whose loud talking and laughing disrupts other patients and visitors in the ICU. Which of the following is the most effective way for a nurse to address this situation?

- A. Consult the social worker to create a visiting contract
- **B. Initiate discussions about a visiting plan that includes behavioral limits**
- C. Discuss the developmental needs of the patient with the family
- D. Create a visiting contract that includes behavioral limits and present it to the family

Answer: B

Explanation:

The most effective and collaborative approach is to engage the family in a respectful conversation about visitation behavior, including setting clear behavioral expectations. This promotes therapeutic communication and family involvement without escalating conflict. "When visitor behavior interferes with care or other patients' well-being, nurses should initiate a discussion that includes setting expectations and collaboratively developing a behavior plan." (Referenced from CCRN Pediatric - Professional Caring and Ethical Practice: Family-Centered Care and Conflict Resolution)

NEW QUESTION # 29

High-frequency ventilation improves pulmonary air leaks by:

- A. Increasing the pressure differential between the airway and the intrapleural space
- **B. Decreasing the pressure differential between the airway and the intrapleural space**
- C. Increasing the mean airway pressure
- D. Decreasing minute ventilation

Answer: B

Explanation:

High-frequency ventilation (HFV) utilizes very small tidal volumes delivered at rapid frequencies (often greater than 150 breaths per minute), which helps minimize alveolar overdistention and cyclical opening and closing of alveoli—both of which contribute to pulmonary air leak syndromes (e.g., pneumothorax, pulmonary interstitial emphysema).

According to CCRN (Pediatric) - Direct Care (Pulmonary Section):

"HFV is particularly beneficial in managing pulmonary air leaks by stabilizing alveoli with a constant mean airway pressure while using very low tidal volumes, which significantly reduce the pressure gradient between the airways and the surrounding intrapleural space. This promotes healing of alveolar disruptions and prevents further leakage." Therefore, the reduced pressure differential protects fragile alveoli and allows for tissue repair without additional mechanical trauma.

NEW QUESTION # 30

Nurse Barbara is assigned in the pediatric unit. She is aware that the most reliable indicator of pain in a 2-year-old client is:

- A. crying
- **B. behavior changes**
- C. increased rate of respirations
- D. verbalization of pain

Answer: B

Explanation:

Explanation: There are several indicators of pain in pediatric client but changes in behavior is the one that occurs most often. A change in vital signs doesn't always happen even if there's pain. Crying has more than one cause like fear or separation.

NEW QUESTION # 31

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