

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL NURSING**  
**SCIENCE**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION**  
**DECEMBER 2011**

**COURSE CODE : NUR 420**  
**COURSE TITLE : HEALTH ASSESSMENT DIAGNOSIS & TREATMENT**  
**TIME ALLOWED : 2HOURS**  
**MARKS ALLOCATED : 75**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. THERE ARE THREE QUESTIONS IN THIS PAPER.**
- 2. ANSWER ALL THE THREE QUESTIONS.**
- 3. READ QUESTIONS WITH UNDERSTANDING.**
- 4. ANSWER EACH QUESTION ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER.**
- 5. WRITE LEGIBLY.**
- 6. THE PAPER HAS A TOTAL OF SIX PAGES.**

**DO NOT OPEN THIS QUESTION PAPER UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO BY THE CHIEF INVIGILATOR.**

## QUESTION 1

### Multiple choice questions

For the following multiple choice questions choose the most correct answer e.g: 1. (a)

1. Objective data collection for reflexes detection in the extremities is done through the use of one of the following instruments:

- a) Autoscope
- b) Percussion hammer
- c) Tuning fork
- d) Snellen's chart [1]

2. Assessing one's nutritional status involves which of the following?:

- a) Oral mucosa inspection
- b) Weight and height checking
- c) Hair texture assessment
- d) All of the above [1]

3. Assessment techniques used in assessing the head are:

- a) Inspection and percussion
- b) Inspection and palpation
- c) Percussion and auscultation
- d) Palpation and percussion [1]

4. Assessing the breast for malignancy involves looking for:

- a) Dimpling
- b) Nipple discharge in pregnancy
- c) Breast abscesses
- d) Cracked nipples [1]

5. The main purpose for the screening health assessment is:

- a) Identifying the client's health needs
- b) Case finding for secondary prevention purposes
- c) Verifying client's health perceptions
- d) Validating the client's health status [1]

6. Which area is covered under the external genitalia?

- a) Inspecting the vaginal opening
- b) Inspecting the vaginal musculature
- c) Inspecting the labia minora
- d) Inspecting the vagina [1]

7. The following is a very rapid assessment performed in a life threatening situation

- a) Problem focused assessment
- b) Emergency assessment
- c) Time – lapsed or progress assessment
- d) Comprehensive assessment [1]

8. Objective data is which of the following;

- a) Beliefs
- b) Values
- c) Personal information
- d) Laboratory tests [1]

9. The purpose of percussion is to;

- a) Elicit pain
- b) Determine location, size and shape
- c) Determine abnormal masses
- d) All the above [1]

10. Physical examination of the inguinal area amongst males includes all EXCEPT;

- a) Testicular hernia
- b) Femoral hernia
- c) Inguinal hernia
- d) Scrotal hernia [1]

11. Which of the following is a sign of appendicitis:

- a) Client's apprehension
- b) Client's, lethargy
- c) Client's equilibrium
- d) Client's reaction to rebound palpation [1]

12. The Rinne test is performed to test the client's:

- a) Sense of smell
- b) Sense of touch
- c) Sense of hearing
- d) Sense of taste [1]

13. On thoracic examination crepitus may be detected.  
Crepitus can also be called:

- a) Subcutaneous emphysema
- b) Pleurisy
- c) Bronchiectasis
- d) Hyper resonance [1]

14. Miosis in eye examination findings refers:

- a) Dilated pupil
- b) Mobile pupil
- c) Dilated and dark pupil
- d) Constricted and fixed pupil [1]

15. Acanthosis nigricans refers to which of the following conditions?:

- a) Reddening on the mastoid process
- b) Darkening of soles of feet
- c) Darkening and roughening of anterior neck
- d) Darkening and roughening of the skin of posterior neck [1]

**For the following statements write TRUE or FALSE in your answer sheets e. g 10. False**

16. It is normal for the examination finger not to be able to enter the anus during palpation. [1]

17. The first cranial nerve carries visual impulses from the eye to the brain [1]

18. Enlargement of breast tissue in males is an abnormal finding during puberty [1]

19. Anal and rectal examination in males also includes the prostate [1]

20. Information on cigarette smoking would be necessary if assessing a patient on cervical cancer [1]

21. Critical thinking skills are required for accurate data interpretation and making sound judgments for relevant planning of health interventions [1]

22. Disconfirming data are to be ignored in diagnostic reasoning [1]

23. Critical thinking is a form of objective data collection [1]

24. Rebound tenderness in abdominal palpation is a sign of hepatomegally

[1]

25. Autonomous thinking involves accepting other people's manipulative views

[1]

**TOTAL = [25]**

## **QUESTION 2**

2.1. Read the passage that follows and, utilizing your critical thinking skills, arrange the data in a SOAP format for ½ a mark per point.

A 35 year old male client reports to your health facility with the following complaints: A feeling of tiredness and weakness when performing physical activities, a feeling of fullness in the abdomen, swelling of ankles and feet, a fast beating heart, difficulty in breathing when lying flat and having a problem with falling asleep. On vital signs checking, the client's pulse rate was 90 beats per minute but weak, his respirations were 22 per minute, and his blood pressure was 190/120. On inspection he appeared anxious, his neck blood vessels were enlarged and his abdomen was distended. On palpating the abdomen, the liver was enlarged. He also had edema of the lower extremities. On auscultation of the chest, irregular cardiac rhythms were detected. The doctor ordered a chest x-ray whose results revealed an enlarged heart with fluid accumulation in the lungs. The doctor then recommended the client's admission and ordered a complete bed rest in a high Fowler's position, 4 hourly monitoring of vital signs as well as fluid intake and output monitoring. A light salt-free, low fat and high protein diet was also ordered. A potassium sparing diuretic and digoxin were ordered to rectify the client's medical condition.

[11]

2.2 Banele complains of pain in the knee after a fall while playing soccer. He shows a decreased range of motion in the knee.

i) Mention four (4) diagnostic tests that the nurse should focus on when performing a physical examination of this client?

[4]

2.3. Discuss the eye condition *cataract* under the following heading:

i) Risk factors for the cataract

[10]

**TOTAL = [25]**

## **QUESTION 3**

3.1. Mention five (5) things you would inspect for when conducting a nasal cavity physical examination

[5]

3.2 A 70 year old man visits your facility complaining of pain in the mouth. Describe five possible subjective and objective data you would come up with following the assessment.

[10]

3.3 State five (5) values of comprehensive health assessment

[5]

3.4 A female client age 50 years reports to your health facility complaining of a painless swelling of the breast. She also states to have experienced some bloody discharge from the nipple of the same breast. On examination she appears very depressed and confused.

3.4.1 What condition do you suspect the client has? Motivate your response

[3]

3.4.2 Describe one objective data that you would collect to confirm the condition suspected in

3.4.1 above

[2]

**TOTAL = [25]**