



UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
Faculty of Health Sciences
Department of General Nursing Science

**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER
DECEMBER 2016**

TITLE OF PAPER : ADULT MEDICAL-SURGICAL NURSING III

COURSE CODE : GNS 317

DURATION : 2 HOURS

MARKS : 75

INSTRUCTIONS : READ THE QUESTIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

: THERE ARE TWO SECTIONS: A AND B

: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS

: WRITE NEATLY & CLEARLY

: NO PAPER SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO OR OUT OF THE EXAMINATION ROOM.

: BEGIN EACH QUESTION ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER.

DO NOT OPEN THIS QUESTION PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION IS GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SECTION A MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

For each question, choose the most appropriate response and write the corresponding letter only, in **capital letters**, e.g. 27 B. Each correct answer carries 1 mark.

1. A client has been diagnosed with bacterial conjunctivitis, and eye drops have been prescribed for him. What should be included in the teaching plan for this client?
 - A. Eye secretions are contagious for only 12 hours after initiation of treatment.
 - B. Rinsing hands before instillation of eye drops is very important.
 - C. Instil eye drops on the eye ball and blink to spread medication
 - D. Instil medication in the inner canthus of the lower eye lid

2. Which of the following diagnostic tests would be monitored to evaluate glomerular filtration rate and renal function?
 - A. Urinalysis
 - B. Kidney biopsy
 - C. Urine culture
 - D. Serum creatinine and BUN

3. The client diagnosed with atrial fibrillation has experienced a transient ischemic attack. Which medication would the nurse anticipate being ordered for the client on discharge?
 - A. A beta-blocker medication
 - B. An oral anticoagulant medication
 - C. An anti-hyperuricemic medication
 - D. A thrombolytic medication

4. Which assessment data would indicate to the nurse that the client would be at risk for a haemorrhagic stroke?
 - A. A blood glucose level of 26.7mmol/l (480mg/dl)
 - B. A right sided carotid bruit
 - C. A blood pressure of 220/120mm Hg
 - D. The presence of a bronchogenic carcinoma

5. A 78 year old client is admitted to the emergency department with numbness and weakness of the left arm and slurred speech. Which nursing intervention is a priority?
 - A. Prepare to administer recombinant tissue plasminogen activator
 - B. Discuss the precipitating factors that caused the symptoms
 - C. Schedule for a stat computer tomography of the head
 - D. Notify the speech pathologist for an emergency consultation

6. Which of the following is a priority nursing diagnosis for a patient experiencing a migraine headache?
 - A. Anxiety related to change in or threat to health status
 - B. Altered comfort related to biologic and chemical factors
 - C. Hopelessness related to deteriorating physiology condition
 - D. Risk for side effects related to medical therapy

7. A patient with a spinal cord injury at level C3-4 is being cared for in the ward. Which of the following is the priority assessment?
 - A. Determine the level at which the patient has intact sensation
 - B. Monitor respiratory effort and oxygen saturation levels
 - C. Check spine for signs of spinal injuries
 - D. Assess the level at which the patient has retained mobility

8. You have admitted a patient with bacterial meningitis to the medical-surgical unit. The patient complains of a severe headache with photophobia and has a temperature of 39.2°C. Which collaborative intervention must be accomplished first?
 - A. Administer codeine for the patient's headache
 - B. Infuse ceftriaxone IV to treat the infection
 - C. Give paracetamol orally to reduce the fever
 - D. Give furosemide IV to decrease intracranial pressure

9. Which of the following signs of increased intracranial pressure would appear first after head trauma?
 - A. Bradycardia
 - B. Large amounts of very diluted urine
 - C. Restlessness and confusion
 - D. Widened pulse pressure

10. The nurse is performing an admission assessment on a client with a diagnosis of detached retina. Which of the following is associated with this eye disorder?
 - A. Pain in the affected eye
 - B. Total loss of vision
 - C. Floaters across the visual field
 - D. A yellow discolouration of the sclera

11. The nurse is caring for a client with a diagnosis of detached retina. Which assessment sign would indicate that bleeding has occurred as a result of the retinal detachment?
 - A. A sudden sharp pain in the eye
 - B. A total loss of vision
 - C. A reddened conjunctiva
 - D. Complaints of a burst of black spots or floaters

12. Clients with Type 1 diabetes mellitus often require which of the following changes to their daily routine during periods of infection?
 - A. No changes
 - B. Oral antidiabetic agents
 - C. More insulin
 - D. Less insulin

13. Which of the following methods of insulin administration would be used in the initial treatment of hyperglycaemia in a client with diabetic ketoacidosis?
 - A. Subcutaneous
 - B. Intramuscular
 - C. IV bolus only
 - D. IV bolus followed by continuous infusion

14. Insulin forces which of the following electrolytes out of the plasma and into the cells?
 - A. Calcium
 - B. Phosphorus
 - C. Magnesium
 - D. Potassium

15. Daniel is diagnosed of having hyperthyroidism. Which of the following is a drug of choice for his condition?
 - A. Furosemide
 - B. Propranolol
 - C. Methimazole
 - D. Levothyroxine

16. Nozi is a diabetic patient who is experiencing alternating periods of nocturnal hypoglycaemia and hyperglycaemia. Which of the following might the patient be manifesting with?
 - A. Uncontrolled diabetes

- B. Brittle diabetes
 - C. Somogyi phenomenon
 - D. Diabetes insipidus
17. Nurse Notombi is caring for a patient with a diagnosis of hypothyroidism. Which of the following nursing diagnosis should the nurse most seriously consider when analyzing the needs of the patient?
- A. High risk for aspiration related to severe vomiting
 - B. Diarrhoea related to increased peristalsis
 - C. Hypothermia related to slowed metabolic rate
 - D. Oral mucous membrane, altered related to disease process
18. Peter who is diagnosed with acute pancreatitis is under the care of Nurse Mandla. Which intervention should the nurse include in the care plan for the client?
- A. Preparation for a paracentesis and administration of diuretics
 - B. Dietary plan of low-fat diet and increased fluid intake to 2L/day
 - C. Maintenance of nothing-by-mouth status and insertion of nasogastric tube
 - D. Administration of vasopressin
19. For a client with hepatic cirrhosis who has altered clotting mechanisms, which intervention would be most appropriate?
- A. Allowing complete independence of mobility
 - B. Administering antibiotics as prescribed
 - C. Increasing nutritional intake
 - D. Applying pressure to injection sites
20. A patient with diabetes has had many renal calculi over the past 20 years and now has chronic renal failure. Which substance must be reduced in this patient's diet?
- A. Carbohydrates
 - B. Fats
 - C. Protein
 - D. Vitamin C
21. A 21 year old student is admitted with dark urine, fever, and flank pain and is diagnosed with acute glomerulonephritis. Which would most likely be in this student's health history?
- A. Renal calculi
 - B. Renal trauma
 - C. Recent sore throat
 - D. Family history of acute glomerulonephritis

22. Which of the following criteria is required before a patient can be considered for continuous peritoneal dialysis?
- A. The vascular access must have healed
 - B. The patient must be in a home setting
 - C. The patient must be hemodynamically stable
 - D. Hemodialysis must have failed
23. The physician has prescribed ergotamine tartrate for a client with migraine headaches. The client asks the nurse why she has migraine headache. What is the nurse's best response?
- A. Migraine headaches are believed to be caused by sustained contraction of muscles around the scalp and face
 - B. Migraine headache are believed to be caused by the dilation of the cranial arteries
 - C. Migraine headaches are believed to be caused by irritations and inflammation of the openings of the sinuses
 - D. Migraine headache are believed to be caused by temporary decrease in intracranial pressure
24. When assessing a lesion diagnosed as malignant melanoma, the nurse in-charge most likely expects to note which of the following?
- A. A small papule with a dry, rough scale
 - B. A firm, nodular lesion topped with a crust
 - C. An irregular shaped lesion
 - D. A pearly papule with a central crater and a waxy border

[Total: 24 Marks]

SECTION B SHORT ESSAY QUESTIONS

Question 1

A 45 year old male patient is admitted into your unit with a diagnosis of a traumatic brain injury following a motor vehicle accident.

- a. Explain 2 main mechanisms of brain injury [4]
- b. State three physical examination findings you would see in the above client.[3]
- c. The client has elevated intracranial pressure. Describe the nursing and medical measures you would institute to reduce the intracranial pressure. [9]

[Sub-total Marks 16]

Question 2

A 55 year old woman is admitted into your unit with a history of coughing and fever of acute onset since 7 days ago. She presents with severe dehydration, drowsiness and lethargy, BP 85/50mm Hg, P102 beats/minute, RBS 35mmol/L. Family members report that she has no past medical history of diabetes or hypertension.

- a. State the likely diagnosis for this client [1]
- b. State the factors that could have precipitated her condition [2]
- c. Explain the physiologic cause of dehydration in this condition [4]
- d. Discuss the nursing measures you would institute in managing this client. *Provide scientific rationale for interventions.* [10]

[Sub-total Marks 17]

Question 3

Mr. Msibi is a 76 year old man with a 20 year history of type 2 diabetes. Over the last 3 months he has developed dark sores on the third, fourth and fifth digits of the right foot. He has also noticed an open sore on the bottom of his foot. He tells you he does not regularly check his feet for cuts or sores and he has had some "pins and needles" sensation in his feet for almost a year. The sores on his toes are very painful however the ones on the bottom of his foot are not painful.

- a. What is the most likely type of ulcer causing the sores on the toes? [2]
- b. What is the most likely type of ulcer causing the sore on the bottom of the foot? [1]
- c. What is the most common type of leg ulcer? [1]

Mr. Msibi asks you why he has developed these sores. He wears good shoes and washes and dries his feet daily.

- d. Identify 4 aspects of Mr. Msibi's health about which you need more information prior to answering him? [4]
- e. Identify 4 physical finding you would expect to be present in Mr. Msibi. [4]
- f. Develop 2 nursing diagnoses relevant to Mr. Msibi's condition [4]
- g. Propose 2 nursing interventions for the nursing diagnosis. [2]

[Sub-total Marks 18]