

# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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**Medical**

# AAMA-CMA

*AAMA Certified Medical Assistant*



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Question: 454

Which of the following values is considered a desirable cholesterol level?

- A. 0 mg/dl
- B. 180 mg/dl
- C. 230 mg/dl
- D. 250 mg/dl
- E. 300 mg/dl

Answer: B

Explanation:

A level less than 200 mg/dl is desirable. Cholesterol is necessary in the body for several reasons. A level of 0 mg/dl (A) would be detrimental to the body. Levels 200-239 mg/dl are considered borderline high (C). Levels of 240 mg/dl and above are considered high (D and E).

Question: 455

Using sterile instruments to perform a breast biopsy is an example of

- A. surgical asepsis
- B. sterilization
- C. medical asepsis
- D. personal protective equipment
- E. sanitization

Answer: A

Explanation:

Surgical asepsis is removing all organisms prior to entering the body. This is done by using sterile technique and sterile instruments in a procedure. Medical asepsis (C) is disposing of organisms after they leave the body, as in the correct disposal of biohazardous waste. Sterilization (B) is the removal of all organisms from objects, not people. Sanitization (E) is the removal of debris from objects. Personal protective equipment or PPE are items such as gloves, masks, gowns, and eye protection (D).

Question: 456

Wearing a mask, gown, and gloves when working with a patient is an example of using

- A. barrier method
- B. standard procedure

- C. personal protective equipment
- D. body substance isolation
- E. surgical asepsis

Answer: C

Explanation:

Equipment that serves as protection for health care workers is called personal protective equipment. This includes gowns, gloves, face masks, eye protection, shields, and hair and shoe covers.

Question: 457

Applying an elastic or ACE wrap to a sprained ankle is an example of

- A. bandaging
- B. applying a dressing
- C. splinting
- D. casting
- E. treating a wound

Answer: A

Explanation:

An elastic or ACE wrap is an example of bandaging. The function of bandaging in this case would be to provide even pressure and support to the ankle by applying a bandage made of elastic cloth.

Question: 458

Which one of the following is the correct angle for a needle to enter the vein for venipuncture?

- A. 5 degrees
- B. 15 degrees
- C. 30 degrees
- D. 45 degrees
- E. 90 degrees

Answer: B

Explanation:

A 15-degree angle is optimal for placing the needle in the center of the selected vein. A 5-degree angle (A) is utilized when seating the needle during placement of a butterfly-winged infusion device. A 30-degree angle (C) is too much for venipuncture. This angle may cause the needle to go through the vein by puncturing the posterior wall resulting in a hematoma. A 45-degree angle (D) is utilized for subcutaneous injections. A 90-degree angle (E) is utilized during an intramuscular injection.

Question: 459

Which of the following is a Gram-positive cocci that grows in clusters?

- A. Staphylococcus aureus
- B. Neisseria meningitidis
- C. Mycobacterium tuberculosis
- D. Escherichia coli
- E. Streptococcus pneumoniae

Answer: A

Explanation:

Staphylo- is a Greek term that denotes a bunch of grapes. Staphylococci are round bacteria that grow in grape-like clusters. Neisseria meningitidis (B) is a gram-negative bacterium. Mycobacterium tuberculosis (C) has a straight, curved, or branched rod shape and requires an acid-fast stain. Escherichia coli (D) is a gram-negative bacillus. Streptococcus pneumoniae (E) is a gram-positive bacterium, but this species grows in chains.

Question: 460

A scraping of the superficial layer of skin is called a/an

- A. abrasion
- B. avulsion
- C. laceration
- D. incision
- E. contusion

Answer: A

Explanation:

A scraping of the superficial layer of skin is called an abrasion. An avulsion (B) is a flap of skin that is forcibly torn or separated. A laceration (C) is a jagged or irregular tear of the tissues due to trauma. An incision (D) is a clean cut with a sharp object. A contusion (E) is an injury involving bleeding into the tissues without breaking the skin.

Question: 461

When preparing the skin for a minor surgical procedure, the medical assistant should

- A. wash the skin with antiseptic soap in an up and down motion
- B. wash the skin with antiseptic soap from the inner area to the
- C. wash the skin with alcohol and air dry
- D. wash the skin with antiseptic soap after applying sterile gloves
- E. wash the skin with a disinfectant solution from the inner area

Answer: B

Explanation:

You should wash the skin with an antiseptic soap in a circular manner from the inside to the outside, not going back once you have moved further out. Up and down (A) is inappropriate direction. You would not use alcohol (C) or a disinfectant solution (E), and sterile gloves (D) are not necessary for this procedure.

Question: 462

Which one of the following diseases is confirmed by a positive VDRL and RPR?

- A. Hepatitis
- B. Mononucleosis
- C. Syphilis
- D. Rheumatoid arthritis
- E. Systemic lupus erythematosus

Answer: C

Explanation:

Venereal disease research laboratory (VDRL) and rapid plasma regain (RPR) are both serological tests that detect syphilis. Hepatitis (A) detection utilizes a serological test. Mononucleosis (B) testing detects the heterophil antibody within 6 to 10 days of the disease. Rheumatoid arthritis (D) can be detected by testing for rheumatoid factor. Systemic lupus (E) diagnosis requires antinucleotide antibody.

Question: 463

If the medical assistant notices a small tear in her sterile glove during a procedure, she should

- A. put a piece of sterile tape over the hole in the glove
- B. alert the physician that she is not able to assist any longer
- C. ask a coworker to put on sterile gloves and take over for her
- D. continue the procedure but do not pick up sterile objects with
- E. step away from the procedure and replace her gloves with

Answer: E

Explanation:

If a tear is noted, the assistant needs to replace the gloves. Putting tape over the tear (A) will not restore sterility. Continuing the procedure (D) is an unlikely option since most procedures require two hands. Involving a coworker (C) is unnecessary in a routine procedure. Alerting the physician (B) may not be needed if the physician is present for the procedure

Question: 464

Which of the following statements is TRUE?

- A. A spirometer is used to measure the relative humidity of
- B. The specific gravity of urine is part of the microscopic
- C. The erythrocyte sedimentation rate is a means of identifying
- D. Hematocrit is expressed in mm/sec.
- E. Hemoglobin measures the oxygen-carrying capacity of blood

Answer: E

Explanation:

Hemoglobin is measured by weight and is expressed in grams per deciliter (g/dl). A spirometer (A) is a device used to measure lung capacity by tracking the volume and flow of exhaled air. The specific gravity of urine (B) is part of the physical examination of urine. Erythrocyte sedimentation rate, or ESR (C), measures the time it takes for red blood cells to settle in a specimen and is expressed in millimeters per hour (mm/hr); elevated times are associated with inflammatory processes. Hematocrit (D) is measured after centrifuging a specimen and is expressed as a percentage of red blood cells in a specimen; normal adult hematocrit values are 36-55 percent.

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