



# CEN<sup>Q&As</sup>

Certified Emergency Nurse

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### QUESTION 1

Your patient has been admitted to the hospital with acute blindness. After many tests are run the physician can find no organic reason for the patient's blindness. You learn that the patient became blind after witnessing a serious car accident where several people were killed. What do you suspect is the cause of the patient's blindness?

- A. Psychosis
- B. Conversion disorder
- C. Dissociative disorder
- D. Depression

Correct Answer: B

The patient is suffering from conversion disorder. The patient has witnessed something so unbelievable that they have gone blind in order to deal with the conflict. Conversion disorder is when a patient has an alteration or loss of physical functioning that has not pathological cause.

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### QUESTION 2

You are caring for a patient in a crisis state. What would you want to consider when planning care for this patient?

- A. All individuals experiencing a crisis will have the same symptoms.
- B. The patient is suffering from a mental illness if they are in a crisis state.
- C. The patient is suffering from an emotional illness if they are in a crisis state.
- D. Each person reacts differently to a crisis.

Correct Answer: D

Each individual response to a crisis is different. Different patients will not necessarily present with similar symptoms when they are in crisis. What constitutes a crisis for one person may not be the same for another person.

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### QUESTION 3

A nurse from the surgical care unit has been floated to your unit for the day. Which of the following patients would you want to assign to this nurse?

- A. Exacerbation of heart failure
- B. Diabetes Type II, new onset
- C. Emergency appendectomy
- D. Thyrotoxicosis

Correct Answer: C



The nurse from the surgical care unit should be comfortable taking care of an emergency appendectomy patient. This nurse should be most comfortable with pre- and post-operative patients; therefore, the nurse should choose to give him or her those patients if available.

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#### QUESTION 4

You are caring for a child with chlamydial conjunctivitis. What would you want to investigate if you had a patient with this diagnosis?

- A. Presence of an allergy
- B. Possible trauma
- C. Possible sexual abuse
- D. Presence of a respiratory infection

Correct Answer: C

The nurse would want to investigate possible sexual abuse. This diagnosis in a child who is not sexually active should trigger suspicions in the nurse. Allergy, trauma and infection can all cause conjunctivitis, but chlamydia is a sexually transmitted disease.

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#### QUESTION 5

If you were caring for a child who had croup that had to be in a cool mist tent, what action would you need to take if the child became frightened and began crying consistently?

- A. Notify the physician and get an order for sedation.
- B. Have the mother make the child stay in the tent.
- C. Give the child a toy to play with in the tent.
- D. Place the child in mom's lap and direct cool mist over the child's face.

Correct Answer: D

The nurse would want to place the child in the mom's lap and direct cool mist over the child's face. Crying will aggravate laryngospasm and increase hypoxia. This will lead to airway obstruction so it is important to decrease crying quickly.

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