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QUESTION 1

Which of the following blood gas parameters primarily reflects respiratory function?

- A. PCO₂
- B. CO₂ content of the blood
- C. HCO₃
- D. Base excess

Correct Answer: A

(A) The lungs are responsible for regulation of CO₂, and this parameter primarily reflects respiratory function. (B) CO₂ content of the blood is an indirect measure of respiratory function. (C) HCO₃ is a measure of kidney function only and is important in acid-base balance. (D) Base excess represents the excess of HCO₃ and is not reflective of respiratory function.

QUESTION 2

One of the medications that is prescribed for a male client is furosemide (Lasix) 80 mg bid. To reduce his risk of falls, the nurse would teach him to take this medication:

- A. On arising and no later than 6 PM
- B. At evenly spaced intervals, such as 8 AM and 8 PM
- C. With at least one glass of water per pill
- D. With breakfast and at bedtime

Correct Answer: A

(A) This option provides adequate spacing of the medication and will limit the client's need to get up to go to the bathroom during the night hours, when he is especially at high risk for falls. (B) This option would result in the need to get up during the night to urinate and would thus increase the risk of falls. This option also does not take into consideration the client's usual daily routine. (C) Taking this medication with at least one glass of water would not have an impact on the risk of falls. (D) This option would result in the need to get up during the night to urinate and would thus increase the risk of falls.

QUESTION 3

A 74-year-old female client is 3 days postoperative. She has an indwelling catheter and has been progressing well. While the nurse is in the room, the client states, "Oh dear, I feel like I have to urinate again!" Which of the following is the most appropriate initial nursing response?

- A. Assure her that this is most likely the result of bladder spasms.
- B. Check the collection bag and tubing to verify that the catheter is draining properly.



- C. Instruct her to do Kegel exercises to diminish the urge to void.
- D. Ask her if she has felt this way before.

Correct Answer: B

(A) Although this may be an appropriate response, the initial response would be to assure the patency of the catheter. (B) The most frequent reason for an urge to void with an indwelling catheter is blocked tubing. This response would be the best initial response. (C) Kegel exercises while a retention catheter is in place would not help to prevent a voiding urge and could irritate the urethral sphincter. (D) Though the nurse would want to ascertain whether the client has felt the same urge to void before, the initial response should be to assure the patency of the catheter.

QUESTION 4

The family member of a child scheduled for heart surgery states, "I just don't understand this open-heart or closed-heart business. I'm so confused! Can you help me understand it?" The nurse explains that patent ductus arteriosus repair is:

- A. Open-heart surgery. The child will be placed on a heart-lung machine while the surgery is being performed.
- B. Closed-heart surgery. It does not require that the child be placed on the heart-lung machine while the surgery is being performed.
- C. A pediatric version of the coronary artery bypass graft surgery performed on adults. It is an open-heart surgery.
- D. A pediatric version of percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty performed on adults. It is a closed-heart surgery.

Correct Answer: B

(A) Patent ductus arteriosus repair is a closed-heart procedure. The client is not placed on a heart-lung machine. (B) Patent ductus arteriosus is a ductus arteriosus that does not close shortly after birth but remains patent. Repair is a closed-heart procedure involving ligation of the patent ductus arteriosus. (C) Coronary artery bypass graft surgery is an open-heart surgical procedure in which blocked coronary arteries are bypassed using vessel grafts. (D) Percutaneous transluminal coronary angioplasty is a closed-heart procedure that improves coronary blood flow by increasing the lumen size of narrowed vessels.

QUESTION 5

Nursing care for the parents of a child with a congenital heart defect would include:

- A. Encouraging the parents not to tell the child about the seriousness of the congenital heart defect, so the child will function as normally as possible
- B. Acknowledging the fear and concern surrounding their child's health and assisting the parents through the grieving process as they mourn the loss of their fantasized healthy child
- C. Identifying anger and resentment as destructive emotions that serve no purpose
- D. Expressing to the parents after the corrective surgery has been completed successfully that all their grief feelings will resolve

Correct Answer: B



(A)

It is important to discuss with parents the need to treat the child as they would any other children, but they must be truthful and honest with the child about the heart defect. As the child grows older, explanations can go into greater depth.

(B)

Parents of children with congenital heart defects go through a grieving process over the loss of their "healthy" child. The nurse needs to recognize these feelings and give the parents a role in the child's care when they are ready. (C) Anger and resentment are normal feelings that must be dealt with appropriately. (D) Parents may go through a second grieving process after the repair of the cardiac defect. During this grieving period, they mourn the loss of the "defective" child who now may be essentially "normal."

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