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QUESTION 1

Your patient is a known diabetic who takes up to four insulin injections a day. Today he is found unresponsive, diaphoretic, tachycardic and breathing 18 times a minute. What is likely the patient's chief complaint?

- A. Hypoglycemia
- B. Hyperglycemia
- C. CVA D. Hypertensive crisis

Correct Answer: A

A known insulin dependent diabetic with the above symptoms is most likely hypoglycemia. The tachycardia and diaphoresis is from a catecholamine release trying to mobilize more glucose. This patient may very well have hypertension it just is not the reason for the unresponsiveness.

QUESTION 2

You have responded for a 43-year-old male who was involved in an altercation. The patient was reportedly beaten about the face and head with a baseball bat. The patient is unresponsive. Evaluation of the patient's face reveals instability from the orbits to the mandible. Based on this information, how would you definitively manage this patient's airway?

- A. Immediately assist ventilations with a Bag-Valve-Mask.
- B. Orally intubate the patient and assist ventilations with a Bag-Valve-Mask.
- C. Insert an oral airway and assist ventilations with a Bag-Valve-Mask.
- D. Insert a nasal airway and assist ventilations with a Bag-Valve-Mask.

Correct Answer: B

This patient has an unstable face and an unstable airway. Ultimately, this patient needs to have his airway protected as quickly as possible with an endotracheal tube. With facial instability, it is imperative that an adjunct be placed to ensure that the airway is not occluded by the pressure on the jaw created with the application of the Bag-Valve-Mask.

QUESTION 3

You are assessing a 53-year-old female who neighbors discovered acting funny. The patient appears to be fatigued and confused and exhibiting slurred speech. She is breathing and has a pulse and skin that is cool and mottled. Vital signs are pulse 68 beats per minute, respirations 14 per minute, blood pressure 108/60 mmHg, and temperature 92.7 degrees Fahrenheit. There are no signs of trauma to the patient. Patient prescriptions of Verapamil, Digoxin, Synthroid, and nitroglycerin are found in the bedroom. Allergies are unknown. The temperature in her apartment is 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Based on the assessment findings, which of the following conditions is most likely a contributing factor to the patient's condition?

- A. Hypothyroidism
- B. Hypertension



C. Atrial fibrillation

D. Seizure

Correct Answer: A

The paramedic must recognize that the patient is hypothermic, based on the body temperature as well as the temperature in the apartment. Furthermore, the paramedic must recognize that the patient suffers from hypothyroidism, as evidenced by her use of Synthroid. Hypothyroidism describes a thyroid that is slow and can only generate minimal cellular metabolism. Since heat generation is a product of cellular metabolism, the patient's body temperature drops accordingly. Neither atrial fibrillation, hypertension, nor seizure would cause the patient to become hypothermic.

QUESTION 4

Of the two types of energy transfer, which type would a Motor Vehicle crash (MVC) with frontal impact, non-restrained driver with bent steering wheel and spidered windshield?

A. High velocity penetrating

B. Decelerating

C. Low velocity penetrating

D. Blunt

Correct Answer: D

Blunt trauma is just not getting stabbed or shot. Blunt trauma is any injury which is caused by something striking the human body and having energy transferred to the human body. Blunt trauma can be caused by decelerating injury like a front end impact of a car against a tree.

QUESTION 5

Which statement about a patient's right to refuse care is correct?

A. A child who is old enough to understand danger is old enough to refuse care and transport.

B. An adult patient who is of sound mind and understands the consequences can refuse treatment.

C. No one can authorize treatment or transport for any other individual, regardless of his or her age.

D. EMTs should leave immediately whenever a patient says that he or she will refuse care.

Correct Answer: B

An adult of sound mind can refuse treatment, but the EMT should first make an effort to clearly explain the consequences; refusal of treatment should be documented in writing.