

Keyword Review

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FIRST

1. For a cognitively impaired client who cannot accurately report pain, what is the **first** action you should take?

1. Closely assess for nonverbal signs such as grimacing or rocking.
2. Obtain baseline behavioral indicators from family members.
3. Look at the MAR and chart to note the time of the last dose of analgesic and the client's response.
4. Give the maximum PRN dose within the minimum time frame for relief.

2. A patient with wheezing and coughing caused by an allergic reaction to penicillin is admitted to the emergency department. Which medication do you anticipate administering **first**?

1. Methylprednisolone 100mg IV
2. Cromolyn 20 mg via nebulizer
3. Albuterol 3 mL via nebulizer
4. Aminophylline 500 mg IV

3. The nurse working on a neuroscience unit has just received an intershift report. Which assigned client should the nurse assess **first**?

1. A client with Parkinson's disease who cries about not being able to get up easily
2. A client with multiple sclerosis who is having noticeable leg spasms
3. A client who had a hemorrhagic stroke and reports a severe headache
4. A client scheduled for a craniotomy in 4 hours

4. The clinic nurse is returning phone messages from clients. Which phone message should the nurse return **first**?

1. Elderly client with pneumonia who reports being dizzy when getting up.
2. Client with cystic fibrosis who needs a prescription for pancreatic enzymes.
3. Client with lung cancer on chemotherapy who reports nausea.
4. Client with pertussis who reports severe coughing that causes vomiting.

PRIORITY/MOST IMPORTANT

5. You are caring for a patient with uterine cancer who is being treated with intracavitary radiation therapy. The UAP reports that the patient insisted on ambulating to the bathroom and now "something feels like it is coming out." What is the **priority** action?

1. Assess the UAP's knowledge; explain the rationale for strict bed rest.
2. Assess for dislodgment; use forceps to retrieve and a lead container to store as needed.
3. Assess the patient's knowledge of the treatment plan and her willingness to participate.
4. Notify the physician about the potential or confirmed dislodgment of the radiation implant.

6. A woman is admitted to the birth unit. She is bearing down uncontrollably with contractions and says, "The baby is coming!" What should be the **priority** action of the nurse?

1. Telephone the healthcare provider.
2. Put on gloves and prepare for immediate birth.
3. Obtain a medical and obstetric history.
4. Assess maternal vital signs and fetal heart rate.

7. The nurse would take which action as a high **priority** during a routine health assessment?

1. Teach the client about ways to maintain health and wellness.
2. Identify all areas of pathology.
3. Use humor if the client is anxious.
4. Explore the client's family relationships.

8. When asking a client newly admitted to the hospital about dietary history, which question by the nurse would be **most** important?

1. "What time of day do you eat each meal?"
2. "Do you eat alone or with family members?"
3. "How often do you eat meals at restaurants?"
4. "Do you have any dietary restrictions?"

9. While performing a breast examination on a 22-year-old client, you obtain the following data. Which finding is **most** important to communicate to the physician?

1. Both breasts have many nodules in the upper outer quadrants.
2. The client reports bilateral breast tenderness with palpation.
3. The breast on the right side is larger than the breast on the left.
4. An irregularly shaped, nontender lump is palpable in the left breast.

10. The clinic nurse is scheduling a chest x-ray for a female client who may have pneumonia. Which question is **most** important for the nurse to ask the client?

1. "Have you ever had a chest x-ray before?"
2. "Can you hold your breath for a minute?"
3. "Do you smoke or have you ever smoked cigarettes?"
4. "Is there any chance you may be pregnant?"

MOST

11. Mr. J. has a panic disorder and it appears that he is having some problems controlling his anxiety. Which symptoms concern you **most**?

1. His heart rate is increased and he reports chest tightness.
2. He demonstrates tachypnea and carpopedal spasms.
3. He is pacing back and forth and pounding his fists together.
4. He is muttering to himself and is easily startled.

12. The nurse is providing care for a client with an acute hemorrhagic stroke. The client's spouse states that he has been reading a lot about strokes and asks why his wife has not received alteplase (Activase). What is the **most** appropriate response by the nurse?

1. "Your wife was not admitted within the timeframe that alteplase is usually given."
2. "This drug is used primarily for clients who experience an acute heart attack."
3. "Alteplase dissolves clots and may cause more bleeding into your wife's brain."
4. "Your wife had gallbladder surgery just 6 months ago, and this prevents the use of alteplase."

BEST

13. A patient who has received a kidney transplant has been admitted to the medical unit with acute rejection and is receiving IV cyclosporine (Sandimmune) and methylprednisolone (Solu-Medrol). Which staff member is *best* to assign to care for this patient?

1. RN who floated to the medical unit from the coronary care unit for the day.
2. RN with 3 years of experience in the operating room who is orienting to the medical unit.
3. RN who has worked on the medical unit for 5 years and is working a double shift today.
4. Newly graduated RN who needs experience with IV medication administration.

14. Which information about a client who has meningococcal meningitis is the *best* indicator that you can discontinue droplet precautions?

1. Pupils are equal and reactive to light.
2. Appropriate antibiotics have been given for 24 hours.
3. Cough is productive of clear, non-purulent mucus.
4. Temperature is lower than 100° F (37.8° C).

15. A 6-year-old who received chemotherapy and had anorexia is now cheerfully eating peanut butter, yogurt, and applesauce. When the mother arrives, the child refuses to eat and throws the dish on the floor. What is your *best* response to this behavior?

1. Remind the child that foods tasted good today and will help the body to get strong.
2. Allow the mother and child time alone to review and control the behavior.
3. Ask the mother to leave until the child can finish eating and then invite her back.
4. Explain to the mother that the behavior could be a normal expression of anger.

NEXT

16. You are administering vancomycin (Vancocin) 500 mg IV to a client with a MRSA wound infection when you notice that the client's neck and face are becoming flushed. Which action should you take **next**?

1. Discontinue the vancomycin infusion.
2. Slow the rate of the vancomycin infusion.
3. Obtain an order for an antihistamine.
4. Check the client's temperature.

17. While working in the pediatric clinic, you receive a telephone call from the parent of a 13-year-old who is receiving chemotherapy for leukemia. The patient's sibling has chickenpox (varicella). Which action will you anticipate taking **next**?

1. Administer varicella-zoster immune globulin to the patient.
2. Teach the parent about the correct use of acyclovir (Zovirax).
3. Educate the parent about contact and airborne precautions.
4. Prepare to admit the patient to a private room in the hospital.

BEST FIRST/BEST INITIAL

18. The UAP reports to you, the RN, that a client with myasthenia gravis has an elevated temperature (102.2° F [39°C]) an increased heart rate (120 beats/min), and a rise in blood pressure (158/94 mm Hg) and was incontinent of urine and stool. What is your best **first** action at this time?

1. Administer an acetaminophen suppository
2. Notify the physician immediately.
3. Recheck vital signs in 1 hour.
4. Reschedule the client's physical therapy.

FOLLOW UP

As additional - neutral

19. A client discloses to you that his financial situation is problematic. Which aspect of his situation has an **immediate** impact on discharge teaching for wound care and other *follow-up* issues?

1. He is homeless and has no family locally.
2. He has no money for medications.
3. He has no transportation to the follow-up appointment.
4. He cannot read or write very well.

As additional - negative

20. You are supervising a senior nursing student who is caring for a client with a right hemisphere stroke. Which action by the student nurse requires *follow up*?

1. Instructing the client to sit up straight, and the client responding with a puzzled expression
2. Moving the client's food tray to the right side of his over-bed table
3. Assisting the client with passive range-of-motion (ROM) exercises
4. Combing the hair on the left side of the client's head when the client always combs his hair on the right side

NEGATIVES

21. A tearful parent brings a child to the ED after the child takes an unknown amount of children's chewable vitamins at an unknown time. The child is currently alert and asymptomatic. What information should be **immediately** reported to the physician?

1. The ingested children's chewable vitamins contain iron.
2. The child has been treated previously for ingestion of toxic substances.
3. The child has been treated several times before for accidental injuries.
4. The child was nauseated and vomited once at home.

22. An 18-year-old college student with an exacerbation of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) has been receiving prednisone 20 mg daily for 4 days. Which medical order should you *question*?

1. Discontinue prednisone after today's dose.
2. Give a "catch-up" dose of varicella vaccine.
3. Check the patient's C-reactive protein level.
4. Administer ibuprofen 800 mg PO.

23. You are checking medication orders that were received by telephone for a client with rheumatoid arthritis who was admitted with methotrexate toxicity. Which order is important to *clarify* with the physician?

1. Administer chlorambucil 4 mg PO daily
2. Infuse normal saline at 250 mL/hr for 4 hours
3. Administer folic acid 2000 mcg PO daily
4. Give cyanocobalamin 10,000 mcg PO

24. These medications have been prescribed for a 9-year-old with deep partial and full-thickness burns. Which medication is most important to *double-check* with another licensed nurse before administration?

1. Silver sulfadiazine ointment
2. Famotidine 20 mg IV
3. Lorazepam 0.5 mg PO
4. Multivitamin (pediatric) 1 tablet PO

25. You are working with a student nurse to care for an HIV-positive patient with severe esophagitis caused by *Candida albicans*. Which action by the student indicates that you need to *intervene* most quickly?

1. Putting on a mask and gown before entering the patient's room.
2. Giving the patient a glass of water after administering the ordered oral nystatin suspension.
3. Suggesting that the patient should order chile con carne or chicken soup for the next meal.
4. Placing a "No Visitors" sign on the door of the patient's room.

TEACHING QUESTIONS - negative

26. A client with TB is preparing for discharge. Which statement by the client indicates a need for further teaching?

1. "Everyone in my family needs to see physician for TB testing."
2. "I will continue to take my isoniazid until I am feeling completely well."
3. "I will cover my mouth and nose when I cough and put used tissues in special bags to control spread of infection."
4. "I will change my diet to include more foods rich in vitamin C, iron, and protein."

TEACHING QUESTIONS - positive

27. The nurse has contributed to a staff education program about client confidentiality. Which of the following statements by a staff member would indicate a correct understanding of the teaching?

1. "The nurse can share client information with housekeeping staff who work on the unit."
2. "Only staff actively caring for a client may access the client medical record."
3. "Staff may provide updates to a client's family members on the client's condition if the family members are on hospital premises."
4. "Family members are permitted to see the client's medical record if the client provides verbal consent."

NO KEYWORD/TARGET

28. You are providing end-of-life-care for a patient with terminal liver cancer. The patient is weak and restless. Her skin is cool and mottled. Dyspnea develops and the patient appears anxious and frightened. What should you do?

1. Obtain an order for morphine elixir.
2. Alert the rapid response team and call the physician for orders.
3. Deliver breaths at 20/min with a bag-valve mask and prepare for intubation.
4. Sit quietly with the patient and offer emotional support and comfort.