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QUESTION 1

You are reviewing an arterial blood gas for a patient. Which result would lead you to believe this patient has respiratory acidosis?

- A. pH of 7.48
- B. PCO₂ of 32 mm Hg
- C. pH of 7.30
- D. HCO₃ of 20 mEq/L

Correct Answer: C

A pH level of 7.30 would indicate an acid base imbalance. The normal pH is 7.35 and 7.45. Anything less than 7.35 would indicate acidosis, and anything greater than 7.45 would indicate an alkaline state. The normal PCO₂ is 35 to 45 mm Hg. Bicarbonate is usually associated with a metabolic state.

QUESTION 2

You have been assigned to triage patients today. Which patient would get the highest priority?

- A. A patient who ate spicy pizza who is now complaining of chest pain
- B. A patient who injured their finger while cutting vegetables
- C. A patient with a headache, fever and nasal congestion
- D. A patient who complains of ankle pain when ambulating

Correct Answer: A

A patient who is complaining of chest pain should get the highest priority. Patients with trauma, chest pain, respiratory distress and cardiac arrest would get the highest priority on the list. Patients with minor injuries, cold symptoms or sprains would fall next.

QUESTION 3

You are providing a teaching session to a group of patients regarding skin cancer. Which of the following statements would you not want to include in this education?

- A. Wear sunscreen when engaged in outdoor activities.
- B. The body should be examined monthly for any lesions that appear suspicious.
- C. A hat, opaque clothing, and sunglasses should be worn when in the sun.
- D. Avoid sun exposure after 3pm.

Correct Answer: D



It would be incorrect to instruct the patients to avoid the sun after 3pm. The patients would want to avoid the sun between 11am and 3pm. All other statements are correct and should be taught to the patients.

QUESTION 4

Which of the following would you expect to find in a patient with acute respiratory distress syndrome?

- A. Decreased respiratory rate
- B. Pallor
- C. Low arterial PAO₂
- D. An elevated arterial PAO₂

Correct Answer: C

The patient would exhibit a low arterial PAO₂. Increased respiratory rate would be the earliest sign that the nurse would see. Then the patient will begin to display air hunger, labored breathing, retractions and cyanosis.

Hypoxia is evidenced by the arterial blood gas.

QUESTION 5

Which IV fluids would you need to hang with a transfusion?

- A. Lactated ringers
- B. Dextrose 5% and normal saline 0.9%
- C. Dextrose 5% and normal saline 0.45%
- D. Normal saline 0.9%

Correct Answer: D

The nurse should hang normal saline 0.9% with a transfusion. All other options are contraindicated due to clotting and hemolysis. Normal saline is the only option that can be hung with a transfusion.

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