



National Council Licensure Examination(NCLEX-RN)

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## **QUESTION 1**

A female client at 37 weeks\\' gestation has just undergone a nonstress test. The results were two fetal movements with a corresponding increase in fetal heart rate (FHR) of 15 bpm lasting 15 seconds within a 20-minute period. Her results would be classified as:

- A. Reactive; needs follow-up contraction stress test
- B. Reactive; no contraction stress test required
- C. Non-reactive; needs follow-up contraction stress test
- D. Non-reactive; no contraction stress test required

Correct Answer: B

(A) A contraction stress test is unnecessary following a reactive (normal) nonstress test. (B) The results are considered reactive, indicating that the fetus is not showing distress. Therefore, a contraction stress test, which is a more in-depth test for fetal distress, is unnecessary. (C) A nonreactive test would show fewer than two fetal movements or a failure of the FHR to increase at least 15 bpm with the movements in a 20-minute period. (D) A contraction stress test should follow a nonreactive nonstress test to validate fetal distress.

#### **QUESTION 2**

A male client was diagnosed 6 months ago with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). The progression of the disease has been aggressive. He is unable to maintain his personal hygiene without assistance. Ambulation is most difficult, requiring him to use a wheelchair and rely on assistance for mobility. He recently has become severely dysphasic. Nursing interventions for dysphasia would be aimed toward prevention of:

- A. Loss of ability to speak and communicate effectively
- B. Aspiration and weight loss
- C. Secondary infection resulting from poor oral hygiene
- D. Drooling
- Correct Answer: B

(A) Loss of ability to speak is not dysphasia. Although the client may have difficulty communicating, alternative measures can be developed to enhance communication. This goal, while important, is of a lesser priority. (B) Dysphasia is difficulty swallowing, which could result in aspiration of food and inability to eat, causing weight loss. (C) A secondary infection could result from poor oral hygiene, which could enhance the client\\'s inability to eat, but this goal is of a lesser priority. (D) Drooling normally occurs in clients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and may require suctioning. Drooling, while aggravating for the client, does not pose an immediate danger.

#### **QUESTION 3**

A 48-year-old client is in the surgical intensive care unit after having had three-vessel coronary artery bypass surgery yesterday. She is extubated, awake, alert and talking. She is receiving digitalis for atrial arrhythmias. This morning serum electrolytes were drawn. Which abnormality would require immediate intervention by the nurse after contacting



the physician?

- A. Serum osmolality is elevated indicating hemoconcentration. The nurse should increase IV fluid rate.
- B. Serum sodium is low. The nurse should change IV fluids to normal saline.
- C. Blood urea nitrogen is subnormal. The nurse should increase the protein in the client\\'s diet as soon as possible.
- D. Serum potassium is low. The nurse should administer KCI as ordered.

#### Correct Answer: D

(A) An elevated serum osmolality poses no immediate danger and is not corrected rapidly. (B) A low serum sodium alone does not warrant changing IV fluids to normal saline. Other assessment parameters, such as hydration status, must be considered. (C) A low serum blood urea nitrogen is not necessarily indicative of protein deprivation. It may also be the result of overhydration. (D)A low serum potassium potentiates the effects of digitalis, predisposing the client to dangerous arrhythmias. It must be corrected immediately.

### **QUESTION 4**

A client has been taking lithium 300 mg po bid for the past two weeks. This morning her lithium level was 1 mEq/L. The nurse should:

- A. Notify the physician immediately
- B. Hold the morning lithium dose and continue to observe the client
- C. Administer the morning lithium dose as scheduled
- D. Obtain an order for benztropine (Cogentin)

#### Correct Answer: C

(A) There is no need to phone the physician because the lithium level is within therapeutic range and because there are no indications of toxicity present. (B) There is no reason to withhold the lithium because the blood level is within therapeutic range. Also, it is necessary to give the medication as scheduled to maintain adequate blood levels. (C) The lab results indicate that the client\\'s lithium level is within therapeutic range (0.2?.4 mEq/L), so the medication should be given as ordered. (D) Benztropine is an antiparkinsonism drug frequently given to counteractextrapyramidal symptoms associated with the administration of antipsychotic drugs (not lithium).

## **QUESTION 5**

A 14-year-old client has a history of lying, stealing, and destruction of property. Personal items of peers have been found missing. After group therapy, a peer approaches the nurse to report that he has seen the 14- year-old with some of the

missing items. The best response of the nurse is to:

- A. Request that he explain to the group why he took personal items from peers
- B. Approach him when he is alone to inquire about his involvement in the incident
- C. Imply to him that you doubt his involvement in the incident and request his denial



D. Confront him openly in group and request an apology

Correct Answer: B

(A) This answer is incorrect. There is no proof that he removed the missing items. (B) This answer is correct. Anxiety and defensiveness are lessened if the individual is approached in this manner. (C) This answer is incorrect. It is difficult for one to admit to wrongdoing with this approach. (D) This answer is incorrect. He has not yet been proved guilty. Confrontation will only increase defensiveness and anxiety.

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