# **CNA Program Practice Exam** (Sample)

**Study Guide** 



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# **Questions**



- 1. What does culture change in healthcare focus on?
  - A. Standardizing care across facilities
  - B. Serving elders based on personal values and practices
  - C. Implementing strict medical protocols
  - D. Ensuring uniform treatment methods
- 2. What does it mean when a condition is termed "terminal"?
  - A. It is manageable with treatment
  - B. It is expected to lead to death
  - C. It can be cured with proper medication
  - D. It does not require any medical intervention
- 3. What should a CNA ensure when providing personal care to a patient?
  - A. Patient's comfort and satisfaction
  - B. Privacy and dignity of the patient at all times
  - C. Timely completion of all tasks
  - D. Patient's understanding of procedures
- 4. What is a pressure ulcer?
  - A. An injury to the skin and underlying tissue resulting from prolonged pressure
  - B. A type of skin condition caused by friction
  - C. A condition where the skin becomes overly dry and cracked
  - D. An infection that occurs in bedridden patients
- 5. Which of the following should be included in an oral report about a resident?
  - A. Personal feelings about the resident
  - **B. Speculative observations**
  - C. Facts about the resident's condition
  - D. Hearsay from other staff

- 6. What should a nursing assistant do if the resident's behavior seems aggressive?
  - A. Stay quiet and avoid interaction
  - B. Confront the resident immediately
  - C. Consider what provoked them and get help if necessary
  - D. Leave the room quickly
- 7. Why is prioritization important in managing assignments for nursing assistants?
  - A. It allows for the fastest completion of tasks
  - B. It ensures that the most important tasks are completed first
  - C. It helps with medication management
  - D. It allows for more breaks between tasks
- 8. Define "patient confidentiality."
  - A. The right to get any medical treatment
  - B. The obligation to protect a patient's personal health information
  - C. The requirement to share health records with family members
  - D. The ability to access a patient's financial records
- 9. What symptom is primarily linked to expressive aphasia?
  - A. Inability to swallow
  - B. Inability to understand language
  - C. Difficulty generating speech
  - D. Involuntary emotional expressions
- 10. What should a CNA do if a patient refuses care?
  - A. Insist on providing the care regardless
  - B. Document the refusal and inform the nurse
  - C. Leave the patient alone
  - D. Ignore the request

## **Answers**



- 1. B 2. B 3. B

- 3. B 4. A 5. C 6. C 7. B 8. B 9. C 10. B



# **Explanations**



## 1. What does culture change in healthcare focus on?

- A. Standardizing care across facilities
- B. Serving elders based on personal values and practices
- C. Implementing strict medical protocols
- D. Ensuring uniform treatment methods

Culture change in healthcare emphasizes serving elders based on their personal values and practices. This approach recognizes the individual preferences, beliefs, and backgrounds of patients, aiming to deliver care that is person-centered rather than solely focused on medical procedures or institutional standards. By prioritizing the unique needs and desires of each elder, culture change promotes dignity, autonomy, and a more supportive environment that aligns care with what matters most to residents and their families. This focus leads to improved satisfaction and well-being among residents, as they feel respected and heard in their care decisions. Implementing such changes often involves shifting organizational mindsets, enhancing staff training, and fostering better communication, which ultimately leads to a more holistic approach to healthcare that upholds the values of those receiving care.

#### 2. What does it mean when a condition is termed "terminal"?

- A. It is manageable with treatment
- B. It is expected to lead to death
- C. It can be cured with proper medication
- D. It does not require any medical intervention

When a condition is termed "terminal," it means that it is expected to lead to death. This designation indicates that the illness is at a stage where curative treatments are no longer effective or possible, and the focus often shifts to palliative care, which aims to provide relief from symptoms and improve the quality of life for the patient. Terminal conditions are typically associated with serious illnesses such as advanced cancer, severe heart failure, or other life-threatening diseases, where the prognosis is limited, and the anticipated outcome is death within a specified timeframe. Understanding this term is crucial for healthcare providers and patients, as it influences the approach to care and planning.

# 3. What should a CNA ensure when providing personal care to a patient?

- A. Patient's comfort and satisfaction
- B. Privacy and dignity of the patient at all times
- C. Timely completion of all tasks
- D. Patient's understanding of procedures

When providing personal care to a patient, ensuring the privacy and dignity of the patient at all times is paramount. This principle is essential in healthcare settings as it fosters an environment of respect and trust. Maintaining privacy means not exposing the patient to unnecessary observation and allowing them to retain control over their personal space and care. Upholding dignity involves treating patients as individuals with their own rights, preferences, and needs. This attention to privacy and dignity can significantly improve a patient's overall experience and cooperation during care, making it a foundational aspect of effective caregiving. While the other options focus on important aspects of patient care, such as comfort, timely task completion, and patient understanding, they do not prioritize the essential right to privacy and dignity. For instance, a patient's comfort and satisfaction are also important, but they can be compromised if privacy is not respected. Timely task completion is crucial but should never take precedence over respecting the patient's dignity. Lastly, ensuring a patient understands procedures is beneficial but again does not encompass the fundamental necessity for protecting their dignity and privacy during personal care.

## 4. What is a pressure ulcer?

- A. An injury to the skin and underlying tissue resulting from prolonged pressure
- B. A type of skin condition caused by friction
- C. A condition where the skin becomes overly dry and cracked
- D. An infection that occurs in bedridden patients

A pressure ulcer is defined as an injury to the skin and underlying tissue that occurs as a result of prolonged pressure on the skin. This condition typically develops in areas where bones are close to the skin, such as on the heels, hips, and buttocks. When pressure is applied to these areas for an extended period, it restricts blood flow to the skin and tissue, leading to tissue damage and breakdown. The primary factors contributing to the development of pressure ulcers include immobility, poor nutrition, moisture, and friction. Understanding that pressure ulcers result specifically from sustained pressure helps healthcare providers focus on preventive measures such as regular repositioning of patients, ensuring adequate nutrition, and maintaining skin integrity. This makes the identification of pressure ulcers crucial in the care of individuals who are bedridden or have limited mobility.

# 5. Which of the following should be included in an oral report about a resident?

- A. Personal feelings about the resident
- **B. Speculative observations**
- C. Facts about the resident's condition
- D. Hearsay from other staff

Including facts about the resident's condition in an oral report is essential because the primary goal is to provide accurate, relevant, and objective information that can inform the care team's understanding and approach to the resident's needs. Focusing on factual data ensures that the report is professional and based on observable evidence, which is critical in a healthcare setting where decisions about care and treatment need to be made based on reliable information. When reporting, it is vital to communicate specifics such as the resident's medical status, any changes in their condition, and observations that are relevant to their care. This type of reporting supports a collaborative approach among the healthcare team, ensuring that everyone has a clear and factual understanding of the resident's current situation. In contrast, personal feelings, speculative observations, or hearsay do not provide a solid foundation for effective care and can lead to miscommunication. Personal feelings may cloud judgment, while speculation and hearsay can result in misinformation that does not reflect the resident's actual status. Thus, maintaining a focus on factual information strengthens the quality of care.

- 6. What should a nursing assistant do if the resident's behavior seems aggressive?
  - A. Stay quiet and avoid interaction
  - B. Confront the resident immediately
  - C. Consider what provoked them and get help if necessary
  - D. Leave the room quickly

When a resident's behavior appears aggressive, it is essential for a nursing assistant to assess the situation thoroughly. Considering what may have provoked the resident's actions is crucial because understanding the underlying causes can help address the situation appropriately. For instance, the resident might be experiencing discomfort, confusion, fear, or frustration. By evaluating these factors, the nursing assistant can better respond to the behavior in a way that de-escalates the situation. Seeking help if needed is also important. The presence of additional staff can provide support and ensure that both the resident and the nursing assistant remain safe. Additionally, bringing in a supervisor or a member of the healthcare team can facilitate better strategies for managing the behavior and addressing the resident's needs effectively. This proactive and compassionate approach not only prioritizes safety but also aligns with the person-centered care philosophy, which emphasizes understanding and addressing individual resident needs.

- 7. Why is prioritization important in managing assignments for nursing assistants?
  - A. It allows for the fastest completion of tasks
  - B. It ensures that the most important tasks are completed first
  - C. It helps with medication management
  - D. It allows for more breaks between tasks

Prioritization is crucial in managing assignments for nursing assistants because it ensures that the most important tasks are completed first. In a healthcare setting, especially in nursing, patient safety and well-being are the top priorities. By prioritizing tasks, nursing assistants can identify which activities need immediate attention, such as providing assistance to patients with urgent needs or monitoring vital signs. Completing the most critical tasks first directly contributes to better patient outcomes. For instance, if a patient requires assistance with basic needs like going to the restroom or taking medication at a specific time, addressing these requests promptly can prevent complications and enhance the overall care experience. Prioritization also helps in managing time effectively, allowing nursing assistants to balance their responsibilities in a fast-paced environment while ensuring that patients receive the necessary care in a timely manner.

- 8. Define "patient confidentiality."
  - A. The right to get any medical treatment
  - B. The obligation to protect a patient's personal health information
  - C. The requirement to share health records with family members
  - D. The ability to access a patient's financial records

Patient confidentiality refers to the obligation to protect a patient's personal health information. This principle is foundational in healthcare and ensures that any medical records or sensitive information about a patient's health status, treatments, or medical history is kept private and secure. Health care professionals are bound by ethical and legal standards to maintain confidentiality, which fosters trust between patients and healthcare providers. This trust is crucial for effective treatment, as patients are more likely to share sensitive information if they believe it will be kept confidential. The other options do not accurately define patient confidentiality. Access to medical treatment, sharing health records without consent, or accessing financial records all involve different aspects of healthcare and privacy but do not directly relate to the fundamental concept of maintaining a patient's confidentiality regarding their health information.

### 9. What symptom is primarily linked to expressive aphasia?

- A. Inability to swallow
- B. Inability to understand language
- C. Difficulty generating speech
- D. Involuntary emotional expressions

Expressive aphasia, often associated with damage to the Broca's area of the brain, primarily affects an individual's ability to produce language. This condition results in significant difficulty with generating speech, making it hard for a person to find the words they need to communicate effectively. Patients may know what they want to say but struggle to articulate their thoughts verbally, leading to frustration. The other symptoms listed, such as difficulty swallowing or understanding language, are not directly linked to expressive aphasia. In fact, individuals with expressive aphasia usually retain their understanding of language quite well, which sets it apart from receptive aphasia, where comprehension is impaired. Involuntary emotional expressions are not specifically related to expressive aphasia, highlighting the unique difficulties faced by those with this condition in terms of speech production.

## 10. What should a CNA do if a patient refuses care?

- A. Insist on providing the care regardless
- B. Document the refusal and inform the nurse
- C. Leave the patient alone
- D. Ignore the request

The most appropriate action for a CNA when a patient refuses care is to document the refusal and inform the nurse. This response is crucial for several reasons. First, patients have the right to make decisions about their own care, including the right to refuse treatment. Respecting this autonomy is a fundamental principle in healthcare. By documenting the refusal, the CNA creates a record that identifies the patient's wishes, which is essential for legal and medical accuracy. Informing the nurse is also vital because the nurse has the authority to assess the situation and determine if any additional interventions are needed. The nurse can discuss the refusal with the patient to understand their concerns, provide further education about the care being offered, and potentially find a compromise that respects the patient's wishes while still addressing their health needs. Ensuring that proper protocols are followed helps maintain clear communication among the healthcare team and safeguards the patient's rights, dignity, and safety.