

Emergency Department Course 1 - Past Histories & ED Flow Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. In medical terminology, which term is used for urinary infection?**
 - A. Urethritis**
 - B. Urinary procedure infection**
 - C. Urinary tract infection**
 - D. Ureter infection**
- 2. What is the significance of knowing a patient's medication list in the ED?**
 - A. It helps in creating a comprehensive social history**
 - B. It prepares the patient for surgery**
 - C. It helps prevent drug interactions and manage existing health issues**
 - D. It allows for faster diagnostic testing**
- 3. What key components are included in evaluating a patient's neurological status?**
 - A. Heart rate and blood pressure**
 - B. Alertness, orientation, and motor/sensory function**
 - C. Family medical history and social history**
 - D. Respiratory rate and oxygen saturation**
- 4. What is the medical condition characterized by high blood sugar levels due to ineffective insulin use?**
 - A. Diabetes Mellitus**
 - B. Hypoglycemia**
 - C. Hyperlipidemia**
 - D. Hypertension**
- 5. What does UTI stand for in medical terms?**
 - A. Urinary trauma infection**
 - B. Urethral tract infection**
 - C. Urinary tract infection**
 - D. Uterine tension infection**

- 6. What is the medical term for a blood clot that travels to the lung?**
- A. Pneumothorax**
 - B. Pulmonary embolism (PE)**
 - C. Deep vein thrombosis (DVT)**
 - D. Arterial thrombosis**
- 7. What details are collected in a review of systems (ROS)?**
- A. Patient dietary habits and exercise**
 - B. Symptoms the patient may be experiencing in various organ systems**
 - C. Social factors impacting health**
 - D. Family medical history**
- 8. Which suffix would you use to describe the surgical removal of the gallbladder?**
- A. -itis**
 - B. -ectomy**
 - C. -osis**
 - D. -pathy**
- 9. How would you document a 22-year-old female's obstetric history if she has had 3 pregnancies, 2 live births, and 1 previous abortion?**
- A. Gravida: 3, Para: 1, Abortus: 2**
 - B. Gravida: 3, Para: 2, Abortus: 1**
 - C. Gravida: 2, Para: 2, Abortus: 1**
 - D. Gravida: 2, Para: 1, Abortus: 2**
- 10. What is the medical term for the surgical removal of the prostate gland?**
- A. Prostatectomy**
 - B. Nephrectomy**
 - C. Orchiectomy**
 - D. Appendectomy**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

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Explanations

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1. In medical terminology, which term is used for urinary infection?

- A. Urethritis**
- B. Urinary procedure infection**
- C. Urinary tract infection**
- D. Ureter infection**

The term "urinary tract infection" is the correct designation for an infection that occurs within the urinary system, which includes the kidneys, ureters, bladder, and urethra. This term encompasses infections that can occur at any point along the urinary tract and is widely recognized and used in both clinical and public health contexts. Understanding the terminology is crucial as it helps in accurately diagnosing and treating the infection. The urinary tract infection can manifest with various symptoms such as frequent urination, burning sensation during urination, and lower abdominal pain, making it preferable to use a term that reflects the entire affected area instead of focusing on just one part, as might be implied with other terms. Other choices may refer to specific scenarios or parts of the urinary system but do not provide the comprehensive representation that "urinary tract infection" does. For example, "urethritis" refers specifically to inflammation of the urethra, while "ureter infection" is not a commonly used term and typically would fall under the broader category of urinary tract infection. "Urinary procedure infection" is ambiguous and does not effectively convey the presence of infection within the urinary tract itself.

2. What is the significance of knowing a patient's medication list in the ED?

- A. It helps in creating a comprehensive social history**
- B. It prepares the patient for surgery**
- C. It helps prevent drug interactions and manage existing health issues**
- D. It allows for faster diagnostic testing**

Understanding a patient's medication list in the emergency department is crucial for several reasons, primarily related to safety and effective patient care. By being aware of the medications a patient is currently taking, healthcare providers can identify potential drug interactions that could exacerbate the patient's condition or lead to adverse effects during treatment. For example, certain medications can interact with commonly used emergency interventions—such as anesthetics, pain relievers, or contrast agents used in imaging—causing complications. Additionally, knowledge of a patient's medication history enables clinicians to make informed decisions regarding the management of existing health issues. This is particularly important for patients with chronic conditions like diabetes, hypertension, or heart disease, as their ongoing treatment must be considered when approaching an acute issue. Ensuring continuity of care and tailoring treatment plans to avoid complications greatly enhances patient outcomes in the emergency setting.

3. What key components are included in evaluating a patient's neurological status?

- A. Heart rate and blood pressure**
- B. Alertness, orientation, and motor/sensory function**
- C. Family medical history and social history**
- D. Respiratory rate and oxygen saturation**

Evaluating a patient's neurological status is crucial in the emergency department as it helps determine the functioning of the central nervous system. The key components, which include alertness, orientation, and motor/sensory function, collectively provide a comprehensive assessment of the patient's cognitive and physical abilities. Alertness refers to the patient's level of consciousness, indicating how awake and responsive they are to external stimuli. Orientation assesses whether the patient is aware of their surroundings, including person, place, and time, which is vital for understanding cognitive function and coherence. Motor function evaluates the ability to move limbs intentionally, while sensory function tests the patient's responsiveness to various sensory stimuli. Together, these components reveal important information about potential neurological impairments, guiding further diagnostic and therapeutic interventions. Other options listed represent essential aspects of medical evaluation but do not specifically pertain to neurological assessment. Heart rate, blood pressure, respiratory rate, and oxygen saturation are critical for evaluating overall physiological stability but are not unique indicators of neurological function. Family medical history and social history are valuable for understanding the patient's background and context but do not directly contribute to an immediate assessment of neurological status.

4. What is the medical condition characterized by high blood sugar levels due to ineffective insulin use?

- A. Diabetes Mellitus**
- B. Hypoglycemia**
- C. Hyperlipidemia**
- D. Hypertension**

Diabetes Mellitus is the medical condition characterized by high blood sugar levels due to ineffective insulin use. In this condition, the body either does not produce enough insulin or the cells do not respond adequately to the insulin that is produced. Insulin is crucial for allowing glucose to enter cells, where it can be used for energy. When insulin is ineffective, glucose remains in the bloodstream, leading to hyperglycemia. This condition can lead to various complications over time if not managed properly, including cardiovascular disease, kidney damage, and neuropathy. Understanding how insulin and glucose interact is fundamental in the management and treatment of diabetes and highlights the importance of monitoring blood sugar levels for individuals diagnosed with this condition.

5. What does UTI stand for in medical terms?

- A. Urinary trauma infection**
- B. Urethral tract infection**
- C. Urinary tract infection**
- D. Uterine tension infection**

The term UTI stands for Urinary Tract Infection. This designation refers to an infection that can occur in any part of the urinary system, which includes the kidneys, ureters, bladder, and urethra. UTIs are commonly caused by bacteria, and they can lead to a variety of symptoms such as frequent urination, burning sensations when urinating, and pelvic pain. Recognizing the proper terminology is essential in the medical field for accurate diagnosis and treatment. The specificity of "urinary tract" emphasizes the entire system involved rather than focusing solely on individual components, allowing for a comprehensive understanding of the condition and its implications.

6. What is the medical term for a blood clot that travels to the lung?

- A. Pneumothorax**
- B. Pulmonary embolism (PE)**
- C. Deep vein thrombosis (DVT)**
- D. Arterial thrombosis**

The medical term for a blood clot that travels to the lung is pulmonary embolism (PE). This condition occurs when a clot, often originating from a deep vein in the legs (commonly associated with deep vein thrombosis), dislodges and travels through the bloodstream to the lungs. Once it reaches the pulmonary arteries, it can obstruct blood flow, leading to serious complications such as difficulty in breathing, chest pain, or even death, if not treated promptly. Understanding the nature of a pulmonary embolism is crucial, particularly in the context of recognizing its risk factors, symptoms, and potential treatment options. In emergency situations, quick diagnosis and intervention are critical, as PE can rapidly become life-threatening. This makes awareness of its classification and implications important for both medical personnel and emergency responders.

7. What details are collected in a review of systems (ROS)?

- A. Patient dietary habits and exercise**
- B. Symptoms the patient may be experiencing in various organ systems**
- C. Social factors impacting health**
- D. Family medical history**

A review of systems (ROS) is a critical component of the patient history-taking process in an emergency department and other medical settings. It focuses on systematically gathering information about the patient's symptoms as they relate to various organ systems, allowing healthcare providers to identify potential health issues that may not be immediately apparent from the primary complaint alone. This approach ensures a thorough check of multiple bodily systems, such as cardiovascular, respiratory, gastrointestinal, and neurological systems, capturing any related symptoms that the patient may be experiencing. By concentrating on the symptoms reported by the patient in each area, the ROS helps to create a more comprehensive picture of their overall health status, which can guide further diagnostic and treatment decisions. It serves as both a screening tool for identifying issues and a means of reflecting on the patient's experience and current health concerns. While dietary habits, social factors, and family medical history are important considerations for a patient's overall health and can be gathered in different sections of the medical history, the core purpose of the ROS specifically targets the evaluation of symptoms across various organ systems. This focused approach is what makes this choice the correct answer.

8. Which suffix would you use to describe the surgical removal of the gallbladder?

- A. -itis**
- B. -ectomy**
- C. -osis**
- D. -pathy**

The suffix used to describe the surgical removal of an organ is "-ectomy." Specifically, when referring to the gallbladder, the procedure is known as "cholecystectomy"—the term derives from "cholecyst," which means gallbladder, and the suffix "-ectomy," indicating surgical removal. This suffix is commonly applied in medical terminology to denote the excision of various organs or tissues, such as appendectomy for the removal of the appendix or mastectomy for breast tissue. The other suffixes do not pertain to surgical removal. For example, "-itis" denotes inflammation, "-osis" indicates a condition or disease, typically one that is abnormal but not necessarily inflammatory, and "-pathy" refers to disease or disorder of an organ or system. Thus, "ectomies" specifically highlight surgical procedures that involve the excision of a body part.

9. How would you document a 22-year-old female's obstetric history if she has had 3 pregnancies, 2 live births, and 1 previous abortion?

A. Gravida: 3, Para: 1, Abortus: 2

B. Gravida: 3, Para: 2, Abortus: 1

C. Gravida: 2, Para: 2, Abortus: 1

D. Gravida: 2, Para: 1, Abortus: 2

For documenting a patient's obstetric history, the terms used are gravida, para, and abortus. Gravida refers to the number of total pregnancies a woman has had, including the current one if applicable. Para indicates the number of live births after 20 weeks of gestation, while abortus indicates the number of pregnancies that ended before 20 weeks, typically referring to miscarriages or elective abortions. In this case, the patient is a 22-year-old female with 3 pregnancies, which means her gravida is 3. Since she has had 2 live births that reached or exceeded 20 weeks of gestation, her para is 2. Finally, she has had 1 previous abortion, which is recorded as 1 on the abortus scale. Therefore, the correct documentation for her obstetric history is gravida 3, para 2, and abortus 1, capturing the total number of pregnancies, successful live births, and previous abortions accurately.

10. What is the medical term for the surgical removal of the prostate gland?

A. Prostatectomy

B. Nephrectomy

C. Orchiectomy

D. Appendectomy

The surgical removal of the prostate gland is referred to as prostatectomy. This procedure is typically indicated for conditions such as prostate cancer or benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH), where the prostate may be causing symptoms or contributing to health risks. A prostatectomy can be performed using various techniques, including open surgery, laparoscopic surgery, or robotic-assisted surgery, depending on the specific circumstances and the patient's condition. Understanding the other terms can help clarify why prostatectomy is the appropriate choice. Nephrectomy refers to the removal of a kidney, which is unrelated to the prostate. Orchiectomy is the surgical removal of one or both testicles and pertains to male reproductive organ surgeries. Appendectomy is the removal of the appendix, commonly performed for appendicitis, and does not involve the prostate gland. By knowing these definitions, it becomes clear that prostatectomy is the specific term for the removal of the prostate gland.