

Hospital Corpsman Basic (HCB) Test 3 Practice (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

- 1. What does "UA" commonly refer to in laboratory tests?**
 - A. Ubiquitous analysis**
 - B. Urinalysis**
 - C. Ultrasound assessment**
 - D. Uniform aggregate**
- 2. Parenteral administration refers to what method of delivering medication?**
 - A. Only orally through tablets or capsules**
 - B. By injection such as IV or IM**
 - C. Topical application to the skin**
 - D. Sublingually under the tongue**
- 3. What does a urine specimen test evaluate?**
 - A. Only the presence of glucose and ketones**
 - B. Specific gravity, sugar, ketones, and protein**
 - C. Concentration of electrolytes in urine**
 - D. Presence of bacteria and viruses**
- 4. Which of the following indicates a negative mono spot test?**
 - A. No agglutination**
 - B. Clear agglutination**
 - C. Severe clumping**
 - D. Pale yellow color**
- 5. What does NAVMED 6550/8 refer to?**
 - A. Medication Administration Record**
 - B. Patient Information Sheet**
 - C. Emergency Contact Form**
 - D. Surgery Consent Form**
- 6. Where is medication injected during an intramuscular injection?**
 - A. Into the bloodstream directly**
 - B. Into the dermis layer**
 - C. Into muscle tissue**
 - D. Into the subcutaneous tissue**

- 7. What is the function of medications like simethicone?**
- A. To induce sleep**
 - B. To reduce gas in the gastrointestinal tract**
 - C. To enhance digestive enzymes**
 - D. To stabilize blood pressure**
- 8. What does the hematocrit calculation determine?**
- A. The percentage of white blood cells**
 - B. The volume of RBCs relative to whole blood volume**
 - C. The concentration of plasma proteins**
 - D. The presence of antibodies in the blood**
- 9. Which of the following correctly describes "Kilo" in the metric system?**
- A. 1,000 times the base unit**
 - B. 10 times the base unit**
 - C. 0.1 times the base unit**
 - D. 1/1,000 of the base unit**
- 10. What specific gravity value is considered to indicate dehydration?**
- A. Less than 1.005**
 - B. 1.005 - 1.025**
 - C. Greater than 1.025**
 - D. 1.030 - 1.040**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

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Explanations

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1. What does "UA" commonly refer to in laboratory tests?

- A. Ubiquitous analysis**
- B. Urinalysis**
- C. Ultrasound assessment**
- D. Uniform aggregate**

In laboratory tests, "UA" commonly refers to urinalysis. This is a comprehensive screening process that evaluates the chemical and physical properties of urine, helping to detect various pathological conditions and assess overall health. Urinalysis is essential in diagnosing a range of disorders, including urinary tract infections, kidney disease, and metabolic conditions. The test may involve several components, such as visual examination, chemical analysis (for pH, specific gravity, proteins, glucose, etc.), and microscopic examination (looking for cells, crystals, and bacteria). This understanding is crucial for healthcare professionals, as it allows them to interpret results accurately and provide appropriate patient care. The other terms listed do not align with the established abbreviation "UA" used in clinical settings, thus confirming urinalysis is the correct interpretation.

2. Parenteral administration refers to what method of delivering medication?

- A. Only orally through tablets or capsules**
- B. By injection such as IV or IM**
- C. Topical application to the skin**
- D. Sublingually under the tongue**

Parenteral administration refers specifically to delivering medication through injection methods, which includes both intravenous (IV) and intramuscular (IM) routes. This method allows for the medication to be absorbed directly into the bloodstream or muscle tissue, providing a more immediate and effective therapeutic effect compared to other routes of administration that involve digestion or absorption through the skin. Using injections can bypass the gastrointestinal tract, making parenteral routes particularly useful for patients who may be unable to take medications orally due to nausea, vomiting, or other reasons. In contrast, the other options focus on routes that either involve the digestive system or are external applications, which do not meet the definition of parenteral administration.

3. What does a urine specimen test evaluate?

- A. Only the presence of glucose and ketones
- B. Specific gravity, sugar, ketones, and protein**
- C. Concentration of electrolytes in urine
- D. Presence of bacteria and viruses

A urine specimen test serves multiple purposes, and its evaluation typically includes measuring specific gravity, sugar, ketones, and protein levels. Specific gravity indicates the concentration of the urine and helps evaluate hydration status or kidney function. The presence of sugar (glucose) can indicate conditions such as diabetes, while ketones are often tested to assess metabolic states, particularly in uncontrolled diabetes or during fasting. Additionally, checking for protein can signal kidney disease or other medical issues since healthy kidneys typically do not allow significant amounts of protein to pass into the urine. While other options mention components or conditions that may be evaluated through more specific tests or assessments, the comprehensive evaluation addressed in this answer aligns directly with the common parameters measured during standard urine analysis.

4. Which of the following indicates a negative mono spot test?

- A. No agglutination**
- B. Clear agglutination
- C. Severe clumping
- D. Pale yellow color

A negative mono spot test is indicated by no agglutination. This test is designed to detect heterophile antibodies, which are typically present in the case of infectious mononucleosis, commonly associated with Epstein-Barr virus infection. When the test is performed, the presence of heterophile antibodies would cause the red blood cells to agglutinate, or clump together, resulting in a positive test. Therefore, if there is no agglutination observed, it signifies that the antibodies are either not present or not present in sufficient quantities, leading to a negative result. Clear agglutination, severe clumping, and pale yellow color do not correlate with a negative test. Clear agglutination would suggest the presence of antibodies, while severe clumping indicates a strong positive reaction. A pale yellow color is not a standard indicator in the reading of a mono spot test and is typically unrelated to the results of agglutination.

5. What does NAVMED 6550/8 refer to?

A. Medication Administration Record

B. Patient Information Sheet

C. Emergency Contact Form

D. Surgery Consent Form

NAVMED 6550/8 is a standardized form used in military medicine specifically for documenting medication administration. This record provides a systematic way to track the medications that a patient is receiving, including information such as the name of the medication, dosage, route of administration, and the time the medication was administered. The accurate tracking of medication is vital for ensuring patient safety, avoiding medication errors, and facilitating communication among healthcare providers. This form is essential for maintaining an organized patient care system, particularly in a clinical environment where multiple healthcare professionals might be involved in a patient's treatment. Other options like Patient Information Sheet, Emergency Contact Form, and Surgery Consent Form serve different purposes. They do not encompass the specific requirements of a medication administration record, which focuses solely on the administration and management of medications for patients. Understanding this form is critical for those in healthcare, particularly in a military setting, to ensure comprehensive patient care.

6. Where is medication injected during an intramuscular injection?

A. Into the bloodstream directly

B. Into the dermis layer

C. Into muscle tissue

D. Into the subcutaneous tissue

An intramuscular injection involves administering medication directly into muscle tissue. This method allows for the rapid absorption of the medication due to the rich blood supply in the muscle tissues, which facilitates faster systemic effects compared to other routes of administration. Muscle tissue provides a larger volume for injection, making it suitable for medications that require a significant dose. In contrast, injecting into the bloodstream directly would be an intravenous administration, while injecting into the dermis layer refers to intradermal injections, which are used for allergy testing or local anesthesia. Injecting into subcutaneous tissue pertains to subcutaneous injections, commonly used for vaccines and medications that need to be absorbed more slowly. Each method has specific indications and uses based on how quickly the medication should act and its intended effect.

7. What is the function of medications like simethicone?

- A. To induce sleep
- B. To reduce gas in the gastrointestinal tract**
- C. To enhance digestive enzymes
- D. To stabilize blood pressure

Medications like simethicone are primarily used to reduce gas in the gastrointestinal tract. They work by decreasing the surface tension of gas bubbles, allowing for their consolidation and easier expulsion from the digestive system. This can alleviate discomfort caused by bloating and excessive gas build-up, making simethicone a common choice for patients experiencing these symptoms. Its effectiveness hinges on its ability to modify the behavior of gas bubbles in the intestines, thereby providing relief from the sensation of fullness or pressure that can accompany gastrointestinal gas. Other options, while related to various therapeutic goals, do not align with the specific action of simethicone. Medications aimed at inducing sleep focus on sedation or influencing neurotransmitter activity, those that enhance digestive enzymes support the breakdown of food substances, and drugs stabilizing blood pressure target cardiovascular function. Hence, the unique role of simethicone in gastrointestinal care distinguishes it clearly in this context.

8. What does the hematocrit calculation determine?

- A. The percentage of white blood cells
- B. The volume of RBCs relative to whole blood volume**
- C. The concentration of plasma proteins
- D. The presence of antibodies in the blood

The hematocrit calculation is a key laboratory test that determines the volume percentage of red blood cells (RBCs) in whole blood. By measuring how much of the total blood volume is occupied by red blood cells, the hematocrit provides valuable insight into a person's overall red blood cell mass and can help diagnose various conditions, including anemia and polycythemia. This test is crucial because RBCs are responsible for transporting oxygen throughout the body, and any significant deviation from normal levels can indicate underlying health issues. Therefore, a high hematocrit might suggest dehydration or other conditions that increase red blood cell production, while a low hematocrit can indicate blood loss or failures in red blood cell production. The other options relate to different components or aspects of blood analysis but do not directly pertain to what the hematocrit measures.

9. Which of the following correctly describes "Kilo" in the metric system?

- A. 1,000 times the base unit**
- B. 10 times the base unit
- C. 0.1 times the base unit
- D. 1/1,000 of the base unit

In the metric system, "Kilo" is a prefix that signifies a factor of 1,000 times the base unit. This means that when "Kilo" is applied to a base unit, such as a kilogram (kg), it indicates that there are 1,000 grams in one kilogram. This prefix is part of the International System of Units (SI) and is crucial for understanding and converting between different measurements. The use of "Kilo" helps standardize measurements, making it easier to communicate quantities in science, engineering, and other fields.

10. What specific gravity value is considered to indicate dehydration?

A. Less than 1.005

B. 1.005 - 1.025

C. Greater than 1.025

D. 1.030 - 1.040

The specific gravity of urine is an important indicator of hydration status. A specific gravity greater than 1.025 suggests that the urine is more concentrated, which typically occurs when the body is attempting to conserve water due to dehydration. When the kidneys sense a lack of fluid in the body, they produce more concentrated urine to retain water, resulting in a higher specific gravity. Values in this range indicate that the individual may not be adequately hydrated, as the kidneys are working harder to reduce water loss. This concentration can be observed in various conditions, including prolonged exercise without adequate fluid intake, illness that causes fluid loss, or conditions that lead to reduced fluid intake overall.