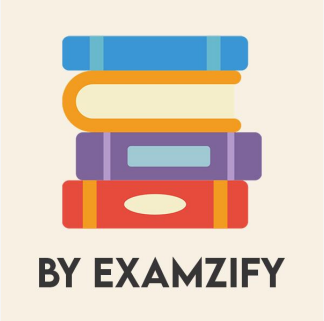
SkyWest General Emergency SSG Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

Questions

1. Which area of the body contains the stomach, spleen, and pancreas?

A. RUQ

B. LUQ

C. LLQ

D. RLQ

2. What is a common symptom of ischemia affecting the heart?

A. Confusion

B. Chest pain

C. Shortness of breath

D. Both chest pain and shortness of breath

3. What is a sign of internal bleeding?

A. Pain and tenderness

B. Burning sensation

C. Yellowing of skin

D. Itching on the skin

4. What anatomical feature is responsible for producing mucus and trapping bacteria?

A. Bronchi

B. Larynx

C. Sinuses

D. Pharynx

5. Which condition is indicated by "B" in DCAP-BTLS?

A. Blisters

B. Bumps

C. Burns

D. Bruises

6. Which pulses are classified as peripheral pulses?

A. Central pulses

B. Carotid pulses

C. Radial, brachial, posterior tibial, and dorsalis pedis pulses

D. Jugular pulses

7. Which term indicates the back side of the human body?

A. Anterior

B. Posterior

C. Medial

D. Lateral

8. What is the first step in the primary assessment of a patient?

A. General impression

B. Second assessment

C. Patient history

D. Vital signs check

9. How many cervical vertebrae are found in the spinal column?

A. 5

B. 7

C. 12

D. 15

10. Which vessel has the primary role of returning blood to the heart from the legs?

A. Inferior vena cava

B. Superior vena cava

C. Femoral vein

D. Arterioles

Answers

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

Explanations

1. Which area of the body contains the stomach, spleen, and pancreas?

A. RUQ

B. LUQ

C. LLQ

D. RLQ

The correct answer is the left upper quadrant (LUQ) of the body. This region contains several important organs, including the stomach, spleen, and pancreas. Understanding the anatomical divisions of the abdomen is crucial for identifying the location of various organs and for assessing conditions that may affect them. In the LUQ, the stomach is primarily located and plays a key role in digestion, while the spleen, which is involved in filtering blood and immune response, is also found here. The pancreas runs horizontally across the back of the abdomen and is situated primarily in the LUQ, serving important functions in both digestion and blood sugar regulation. Knowing the specific locations of these organs is essential for medical professionals during assessments, diagnoses, and patient education, highlighting the importance of accurate anatomical knowledge in the healthcare field.

2. What is a common symptom of ischemia affecting the heart?

A. Confusion

B. Chest pain

C. Shortness of breath

D. Both chest pain and shortness of breath

Ischemia refers to a reduction in blood flow to the heart muscle, which can lead to symptoms related to inadequate oxygen supply. A common symptom experienced by individuals with cardiac ischemia is chest pain, often described as angina. This pain occurs because the heart muscle is under stress due to insufficient blood flow, which can trigger pain receptors. Additionally, shortness of breath is also a frequent symptom associated with ischemic conditions. This can happen as the heart struggles to pump effectively, especially during exertion or stress when the heart's need for oxygen increases. Patients might experience both chest pain and shortness of breath simultaneously, indicating that their heart is not functioning optimally due to ischemia. By identifying both chest pain and shortness of breath as prominent symptoms, it underscores the severity and multifaceted nature of ischemia's impact on the heart. It's essential for healthcare professionals to recognize these symptoms, as they can indicate urgent medical needs related to heart health.

3. What is a sign of internal bleeding?

A. Pain and tenderness

B. Burning sensation

C. Yellowing of skin

D. Itching on the skin

Pain and tenderness are key indicators of internal bleeding. When internal bleeding occurs, it often leads to swelling and inflammation in the affected area. This can manifest as localized pain and tenderness, particularly if blood accumulates in tissues or cavities. The body's response to injury includes not only the release of fluids but also inflammatory responses that heighten sensitivity in the surrounding areas. This is why individuals experiencing internal bleeding may report significant discomfort or pain when that region is palpated or moved. In contrast, while other symptoms might indicate different health issues, they are not primary signs of internal bleeding. A burning sensation could suggest irritations or infections, yellowing of the skin (jaundice) is typically related to liver dysfunction or other metabolic issues rather than bleeding, and itching on the skin is often associated with allergic reactions or dermatological conditions. Understanding the specific indicators like pain and tenderness is crucial for recognizing and addressing internal bleeding effectively.

4. What anatomical feature is responsible for producing mucus and trapping bacteria?

A. Bronchi

B. Larynx

C. Sinuses

D. Pharynx

The anatomical feature primarily responsible for producing mucus and trapping bacteria is the sinuses. The sinuses are air-filled spaces located in the facial bones, and they are lined with a mucous membrane that secretes mucus. This mucus plays a crucial role in the respiratory system by trapping pathogens like bacteria, dust, and other particulate matter that may be inhaled. The trapped particles can then be cleared from the respiratory tract, helping to prevent infections and maintain respiratory health. While other structures in the respiratory system also play roles in filtering and protecting the airways, the sinuses are specifically designed for mucus production and are integral to the process of trapping bacteria and other foreign particles.

5. Which condition is indicated by "B" in DCAP-BTLS?

A. Blisters

B. Bumps

C. Burns

D. Bruises

In the acronym DCAP-BTLS, which is utilized for assessing trauma injuries, "B" specifically stands for "Burns." This tool is designed to help emergency personnel quickly remember the key types of injuries they need to assess during a physical examination of a trauma patient. Burns can vary in severity and require specific treatment protocols based on their depth and extent. Recognizing burns is crucial in emergency situations, as they can lead to complications such as infection, shock, and fluid loss, which must be addressed promptly to mitigate further harm to the patient. Understanding that "B" refers to burns highlights the importance of assessing not only visible trauma but also thermal injuries that might not be immediately apparent, ensuring comprehensive care for the affected individual.

6. Which pulses are classified as peripheral pulses?

A. Central pulses

B. Carotid pulses

C. Radial, brachial, posterior tibial, and dorsalis pedis pulses

D. Jugular pulses

Peripheral pulses are those that can be palpated away from the heart, typically found in the extremities. They provide valuable information about blood flow and overall circulatory health. The correct answer identifies specific pulses that are located in the arms and legs: the radial pulse, which is located at the wrist; the brachial pulse, found inside the arm; the posterior tibial pulse, situated behind the ankle; and the dorsalis pedis pulse, found on the top of the foot. These pulses are used in various clinical assessments to evaluate perfusion and may indicate circulation issues based on their strength and presence. In contrast, central pulses, like the carotid pulse located in the neck or jugular pulses, are not classified as peripheral pulses because they are close to the heart and primarily reflect the major arteries supplying blood from the heart rather than the peripheral circulation. Thus, understanding which pulses are peripheral helps in assessing circulatory status effectively.

7. Which term indicates the back side of the human body?

A. Anterior

B. Posterior

C. Medial

D. Lateral

The term that indicates the back side of the human body is "posterior." In anatomical terminology, "posterior" specifically refers to structures that are located towards the back of the body, opposite of the front side, known as the "anterior." Using these terms allows professionals in the health and medical fields to communicate clearly about locations and positions on the body. For instance, when referring to an injury or condition, specifying whether something is anterior or posterior provides crucial information for diagnosis and treatment. Other terms like "medial" refer to structures closer to the midline of the body, while "lateral" indicates structures further away from the midline. By distinguishing terms like these, it helps to create a clear understanding of spatial relationships within the body.

8. What is the first step in the primary assessment of a patient?

A. General impression

B. Second assessment

C. Patient history

D. Vital signs check

The first step in the primary assessment of a patient is to establish a general impression. This initial evaluation is crucial as it allows the responder to quickly assess the patient's condition and prioritize care based on their level of distress and immediate needs. The general impression involves looking at the patient's appearance, their responsiveness, and any obvious life threats or critical issues, such as severe bleeding or difficulty breathing. Establishing a general impression helps to form a foundation for the rest of the assessment process. By observing the patient, the responder can determine if they are awake and alert or if there are signs of shock or respiratory distress. This initial observation is essential before proceeding to more detailed evaluations, such as vital signs or patient history, which are important but not as immediate in addressing life-threatening conditions.

9. How many cervical vertebrae are found in the spinal column?

A. 5

B. 7

C. 12

D. 15

The human spinal column consists of seven cervical vertebrae, designated as C1 through C7. These vertebrae are located in the neck region and play a crucial role in supporting the head, allowing for a wide range of motion while protecting the spinal cord. Each cervical vertebra has unique characteristics that enable flexibility and mobility in the neck area, including smaller sizes and distinct shapes compared to other vertebrae in the thoracic and lumbar regions. This anatomical structure is essential for the overall functionality and biomechanics of the spine. Understanding the configuration of the cervical vertebrae is important for various fields, including medicine, chiropractic, and physical therapy, as it informs treatment approaches for neck injuries and disorders.

10. Which vessel has the primary role of returning blood to the heart from the legs?

A. Inferior vena cava

B. Superior vena cava

C. Femoral vein

D. Arterioles

The primary responsibility for returning blood from the lower regions of the body, particularly the legs, to the heart is held by the inferior vena cava. This large vein collects deoxygenated blood from the lower parts of the body, including the legs and pelvis, and transports it back to the right atrium of the heart. The inferior vena cava is essential for maintaining proper circulation, as it ensures that blood continuously flows back to the heart to be re-oxygenated in the lungs and pumped back out to the body. This systemic return pathway is crucial for overall cardiovascular function. In contrast, the superior vena cava serves a similar role but specifically handles blood return from the upper body, including the arms and head. The femoral vein is involved in draining blood from the thigh and also contributes to the larger venous system, but it ultimately channels blood into the inferior vena cava. Arterioles, on the other hand, are small blood vessels that play a crucial role in regulating blood flow and pressure but do not participate in returning blood to the heart. Thus, the inferential pathway emphasized in this question highlights the importance of the inferior vena cava's function within venous circulation.