

Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children
Department of Nursing Education
CPN Review Questions
Oncology, Pain Management, and End of Life Care

1. The most common side effects of cancer treatment are caused by the destruction of healthy cells in each of the following organs or systems EXCEPT:
 - a. Bone marrow
 - b. Gastrointestinal tract
 - c. Skin and mucosa
 - d. Kidneys

2. The need for prophylactic antimicrobials in pediatric oncology patients is an important element of anticipatory guidance because of which of the following?
 - a. Patients receiving chemotherapy are immunocompromised and at greater risk for life threatening infections
 - b. The most common type of childhood cancer is lymphoma which leads to immunocompromise and infection
 - c. Surgery and radiation therapy reduce the patient's ability to fight infection
 - d. Antimicrobials have a role in cancer surveillance and prevention

3. Which antiemetic is most effective in the control of anticipatory nausea and vomiting?
 - a. Ativan
 - b. Zofran
 - c. Decadron
 - d. Compazine

4. Which of the following is the most significant sign at presentation that is suggestive of a pediatric CNS malignancy?
 - a. Seizures
 - b. Morning vomiting
 - c. Mental status changes
 - d. Loss of developmental milestones

5. All of the following are effective and frequently used therapies in the treatment of brain tumors in infants EXCEPT?
 - a. Radiation
 - b. Chemotherapy
 - c. Surgery
 - d. Stem cell transplant

6. Which of the following is true of the treatment and mortality of childhood cancer?
 - a. Childhood cancer is treated with chemotherapy or surgery
 - b. Childhood cancer is the leading cause of death in children under age 14
 - c. The overall cure rate of all childhood cancers combined is 75%
 - d. Few childhood cancer patients survive into young adulthood

7. Which pain scale would be most appropriate to use to assess the pain of a 5 year-old patient following a tonsillectomy?
 - a. Wong Baker FACES
 - b. CRIES
 - c. FLACC
 - d. Numerical

8. Which pain scale would be most appropriate to use to assess the pain of a 12 year-old with severe MRCP following invasive orthopedic surgery?
 - a. Wong Baker FACES
 - b. CRIES
 - c. FLACC
 - d. Numerical

9. Your 17 year-old patient, JT, has just returned from the OR following a thoracotomy, accompanied by his parents and several friends. The PACU nurse reports that he has not received any analgesics since surgery. When you assess JT, he refuses analgesics and states that he is unable to rate his pain. Based on this information, which of the following statements is true?
 - a. Adolescents require less analgesics postoperatively than other pediatric patients.
 - b. Adolescents are reluctant to request analgesics because of fear of addiction.
 - c. Adolescents are dependant on parental decision-making when reporting pain.
 - d. Adolescents may be reluctant to report pain in the presence of their peers.

10. DE is a 12 year-old patient with Sickle Cell Disease admitted with vaso-occlusive crisis. He is lying quietly in bed playing a video game and rates his abdominal pain an 8 out of 10. Which is the most appropriate action or response by the nurse caring for DE?
 - a. Administer analgesic as ordered and reassess DE's pain in 30-60 minutes.
 - b. Ask DE's mother to rate his pain in order to determine if it is appropriate to administer analgesics at this time.
 - c. Measure DE's vital signs and utilize the FLACC pain scale to verify DE's self report.
 - d. Reassess DE's pain in 30 minutes and administer analgesic at that time if he appears to be in pain.

11. GP is a 15 year old patient diagnosed with osteosarcoma. He has been receiving morphine around the clock since admission 2 weeks ago for tumor related pain. GP's mother tells you that she would like to "get him off that stuff before he gets addicted". What is the nurse's best response?
- "Addiction does not usually develop until more than 2 weeks of morphine use"
 - "Addiction is extremely rare in adolescents with pain"
 - "Addiction, or dependence, is easily treated with drugs such as methadone"
 - "Addiction is a minor concern compared to his cancer diagnosis"
12. Which of the following is the best family entered care intervention for the 7 year old sibling of KR, a cancer patient approaching the end of life?
- Encourage parents to have the sibling stay with a close relative or family friend.
 - Encourage parents to discuss the details of the dying process with the sibling.
 - Encourage parents to have the sibling spend time at school with his peers.
 - Encourage parents to allow the sibling to be involved in KR's care.
13. Which statement best describes a 4 year-old's understanding of death?
- The 4 year-old does not comprehend death
 - The 4 year-old sees death as temporary and reversible.
 - The 4 year-old begins to understand the finality of death.
 - The 4 year-old understands that death is permanent.
14. Which of the following statements is true regarding the response of children to the death of a sibling?
- Children adjust better to the death of a sibling if they are protected from seeing the sibling at the time of death.
 - Children adjust better to the death of a sibling if they were already relatively distant from the sibling before death
 - Children adjust better to the death of a sibling if they are involved in the illness experience and prepared for the death
 - Children adjust better to the death of a sibling if they receive psychiatric counseling soon after the death
15. Which of the following is NOT a developmentally appropriate intervention for the 4 year-old child whose 2 month-old brother has just died unexpectedly?
- Provide accurate and honest information about the cause of the baby's death
 - Assure the sibling that nothing she did or thought caused this to happen
 - Insist that the sibling hold the baby as soon as possible after death
 - Encourage the sibling to draw pictures about what has happened

Oncology, Pain Management, and End of Life Care

ANSWERS:

1. D
2. A
3. A
4. D
5. A
6. C
7. A
8. C
9. D
10. A
11. B
12. D
13. B
14. C
15. C