

IV Test Questions

Students must answer all five questions, write a nursing note, and submit the answers to your instructor.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. A tourniquet is used during venipuncture for what purpose?

- a) Compress the veins and arteries
- b) Eliminate vein palpation
- c) Allow veins to become more prominent and easier to puncture
- d) Help veins become less prominent and decreases venous filling

Answer C

Rationale: A tourniquet allows the veins to fill with blood and makes it easier to puncture.

2. After cleansing the IV site for 30 seconds with the proper antiseptic the nurse should

- a) Blow on the cleansed site to facilitate drying
- b) Allow the site to air dry
- c) Pat the site dry with a paper towel
- d) Fan the cleansed IV site with a gloved hand

Answer B

Rationale: Always allow the area to air dry without blowing or fanning the area dry. After cleansing the site, you should not touch it with your fingers or contaminate the cleansed area. Know that by doing this, you keep the patient at lower risk for contaminating the site.

3. The number of times a nurse should attempt a venipuncture on a patient is

- a) None
- b) One
- c) Twice
- d) Until the vein is found

Answer C

Rationale: You are allowed two sticks and then you must call a different nurse or an expert in the field. Be aware that if the patient refuses the second attempt, you must honor that request. Always call for help if you need assistance.

4. The nurse is making initial rounds on the nursing unit to assess the condition of assigned clients. The nurse notes that a client's intravenous (IV) site is cool, pale, and swollen, and the solution is not infusing. The nurse concludes that which complication has occurred?

- a) Infection
- b) Phlebitis
- c) Infiltration
- d) Thrombosis

Answer C

Rationale: An infiltrated IV is one that has dislodged from the vein and is lying in subcutaneous tissue. Pallor, coolness, and swelling are the results of IV fluid being deposited in the subcutaneous tissue. When the pressure in the tissues exceeds the pressure in the tubing, the flow of the IV solution will stop. The corrective action is to remove the catheter and start a new IV line at another site. Infection, phlebitis, and thrombosis are likely to be accompanied by warmth at the site, not coolness. Remember that pallor, coolness, and swelling are signs of infiltration.

5. List four indications for intravenous therapy:

Correct answers: medications, bolus injections, anesthesia, blood products, nutrition, testing, diagnostics

6. Document a nursing note describing your IV insertion below:
