

## CEN<sup>Q&As</sup>

Certified Emergency Nurse

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**QUESTION 1**

What causes neurological deficiencies associated with long-term alcohol abuse?

- A. Nervous system damage by the alcohol
- B. Alcohol's interference with folate delivery
- C. Impaired metabolism
- D. Poor general nutrition

Correct Answer: A

The patient with long-term alcohol abuse would be at a higher risk for nervous system damage from the alcohol. The alcohol remains in the system for long periods and damages the nervous system. This can lead to changes in level of consciousness and demented patients who require complete care.

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**QUESTION 2**

You are working in the emergency department and find out that a tornado has hit the local area. Numerous casualties are being sent to the emergency department. What action should you take at this time?

- A. Prepare the triage room.
- B. Obtain additional supplies.
- C. Activate the agency disaster plan.
- D. Call in additional staff.

Correct Answer: C

The nurse should activate the agency disaster plan. All the other options may be part of the disaster plan, but the first priority of the nurse should be to activate the disaster plan. This will cover all the necessary steps that they will need to take.

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**QUESTION 3**

You are caring for a patient in the withdrawal process. What medication do you expect the physician to order to make the withdrawal process easier?

- A. Tetrahydrocannabinol
- B. Naltrexone hydrochloride
- C. Benzodiazepine
- D. Amphetamines

Correct Answer: C

The physician would order benzodiazepines for the patient going through the withdrawal process. The patient going through withdrawal can be anxious and agitated. Withdrawal can also lead to elevated blood pressure, heart rate and even death in some cases if not treated. Giving benzodiazepines to the patient decreases the risk of this happening.

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#### QUESTION 4

You are planning the assignment for the day. Which of the following would be the most appropriate assignment for the nursing assistant?

- A. A patient receiving a continuous tube feeding
- B. A patient who needs a urine culture sent to laboratory
- C. A patient who needs a colostomy changed
- D. A patient who is having problems swallowing

Correct Answer: B

The most appropriate assignment for the nursing assistant would be a urine culture collection for the laboratory. The nurse must choose the most appropriate assignment for each staff member on the unit. In this case the nursing assistant should have the appropriate skills to collect urine and send it to the laboratory.

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#### QUESTION 5

You are assisting the physician with removal of a chest tube. The nurse should instruct the patient to:

- A. Remain very still.
- B. Inhale and exhale quickly.
- C. Exhale slowly.
- D. Perform the Valsalva's maneuver.

Correct Answer: D

The nurse should instruct the patient to perform the Valsalva's maneuver (take a deep breathe, exhale and bear down). Then the tube would be quickly removed and an airtight dressing placed. An alternative would be to ask the patient to take a deep breathe and hold the breath while the tube is removed.

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