CHAPTER 16

General Pharmacology

HANDOUT 16-1: Evaluating Content Mastery  Student’s Name

EVALUATION

CHAPTER 16 QUIZ

Write the letter of the best answer in the space provided.

_____ 1. Under the direction and supervision of medical control, an EMT is permitted to administer, or assist the patient in administering, all of the following medications EXCEPT:

A. nitroglycerin.  C. Tylenol.
B. oxygen.  D. oral glucose.

_____ 2. The medication that an EMT may administer, when directed by medical control, for a poison that has been swallowed is:

A. oxygen.  C. activated charcoal.
B. epinephrine.  D. a prescribed inhaler.

_____ 3. Some EMS systems allow EMTs to administer _________ to counter an overdose of narcotics.

A. Xopenex  C. naloxone
B. Proventil  D. epinephrine

_____ 4. Prescribed inhalers and epinephrine autoinjectors have a similar effect on patients in that they can:

A. increase heart rates.  C. dilate blood vessels.
B. lower blood pressure.  D. lower sugar levels.
5. Epinephrine is an example of a drug’s:
   A. chemical name.  C. generic name.
   B. trade name.  D. brand name.

6. Specific signs or circumstances under which it is not appropriate to administer a drug are known as:
   A. indications.  C. protocols.
   B. side effects.  D. contraindications.

7. Fluids from an intravenous line that flow into the surrounding tissues are called:
   A. swelling.  C. occlusion.
   B. infiltration.  D. infarction.

8. A severe allergic reaction to a bee sting would be treated by administering:
   A. oral glucose.  C. epinephrine.
   B. nitroglycerin.  D. activated charcoal.

9. Medications administered sublingually are:
   A. swallowed.  C. dissolved under the tongue.
   B. inhaled.  D. injected under the skin.

10. Crushing chest pain in a patient with a known history of heart problems would be treated by administering:
    A. epinephrine.  C. albuterol.
    B. oral glucose.  D. nitroglycerin.
IN THE FIELD

Read the following real-life situation. Then answer the questions that follow.

You receive a call from a 6-year-old girl who states that her “mommy can hardly breathe.” When you arrive at the scene, you find a 28-year-old female with labored breathing. She can barely talk as she gasps for air. But after several attempts, the woman indicates that she has just finished mowing the lawn. She thinks the exertion has triggered an asthmatic attack.

1. What type of medication do you suspect the patient might take?

   You place the patient in a comfortable sitting position and administer high-concentration oxygen. You ask your partner to take vital signs while you obtain a medical history. The patient indicates that her physician has prescribed an inhaler for asthma, but she has not used it today. The woman tells her daughter to bring the medication to you.

2. What are some of the prescribed inhalers that you would expect to see?

   After examining the patient’s medication, you call medical direction for permission to assist the patient in self-administration.

3. Before helping the patient, what five “rights” must you ask yourself?

4. What common side effects might you expect after administration of the medication?
CHAPTER 16 REVIEW

Write the word or words that best complete each sentence in the space provided.

1. The study of drugs—their sources, characteristics, and effects—is called ___________________________.

2. Among EMS personnel, the terms *medications* and *drugs* are used interchangeably, but with the public the terms _______________________ or _______________________ should be used.

3. _________________________ _________________________ is a suspension used to treat a poisoning or overdose in which the substance was swallowed.

4. _________________________ _________________________ is administered to a conscious patient (able to swallow) with an altered mental state and a history of diabetes.

5. _________________________ is a drug used to treat any patient whose medical or traumatic condition causes him to be hypoxic or in danger of becoming hypoxic.

6. Many patients with recurrent chest pain carry _________________________ pills.

7. _________________________ is a medication that can reverse a severe allergic reaction.

8. Every drug or medication in the United States is listed in the _________________________ _________________________, which is a comprehensive government publication.

9. Every drug has _________________________, or specific signs, symptoms, or circumstances under which it is appropriate to administer it to a patient.

10. Each drug also has _________________________, or specific signs or circumstances under which it is not appropriate to administer it to a patient.
PHARMACOLOGY BASICS LISTING

1. List six medications that an EMT may administer or help a patient to self-administer under the direction of medical control.

_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________

2. List three types of names by which every drug is known.

_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________

3. List eight routes by which a drug may be administered.

_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________

4. List the five “rights” that an EMT should ask before administering
any drug.


5. List two common drug references carried on many ambulances.
DRUG FLASH CARDS

Use the following information to create flash cards to test each other’s knowledge of the six medications that an EMT may administer or help a patient to self-administer. On each flash card, challenge a classmate to fill in the missing information. Add the completed flash cards to your notebooks.

Card 1

Medication: ______________________________________
Examples: Liqui-Char, Actidose, SuperChar, Insta-Char
Indications: Poisoning or overdose of a swallowed substance
Form: ______________________________________
Route: ______________________________________
Side effects: Black stools and vomiting
Linked diseases: Poisoning and overdose

Card 2

Medication: Oral Glucose
Examples: Glucose, Insta-glucose
Indications: ______________________________________
Form: Gel
Actions: Glucose is absorbed into the bloodstream, which carries it to the brain to reverse the patient’s potentially life-threatening condition.
Linked dise-
Card 3
Medication: Oxygen
Examples: ____________________________________________________________
Indications: Any patient whose medical or traumatic condition causes her to be hypoxic or in danger of becoming hypoxic.
Form: ____________________________
Route: ____________________________
Side effects: None
Linked diseases: Any medical or traumatic injury with hypoxia

Card 4
Medication: ____________________________________________________________
Examples: ____________________________________________________________
Indications: Severe difficulty breathing due to exacerbation of a respiratory disease
Form: Aerosol spray
Route: ________________________________________________________________
Actions: Enlarges constricted bronchial tubes, making breathing easier
Side effects: Increased heart rate, jitteriness
Linked diseases: Asthma, emphysema, chronic bronchitis

Card 5
Medication: Nitroglycerin
Examples: Nitrostat, Nitrolingual
Indications: ________________________________

Form: Aerosol spray

Route: ________________________________

Actions: Helps dilate the coronary vessels that supply the heart muscle with blood

Side effects: ________________________________

Linked diseases: Coronary artery disease, angina, history of heart attack

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Card 6

Medication: ________________________________

Examples: Adrenalin, EpiPen

Indications: Severe allergic reaction

Form: ________________________________

Route: ________________________________

Actions: Constricts the blood vessels and relaxes airway passages

Side effects: Increased heart rate and blood pressure

Linked diseases: Allergic reaction
Chapter 16 Answer Key

HANDOUT 16-1: Chapter 18 Quiz


HANDOUT 16-2: In the Field

1. A prescribed inhaler
2. Albuterol, Ventolin, Proventil, Volmax
3. Do I have the right patient? Is this the right medication? Is this the right dose? Am I giving this medication by the right route? Am I giving the medication at the right time?
4. Increased heart rate, jitteriness

HANDOUT 16-3: Chapter 16 Review

1. pharmacology
2. medications; medicine
3. Activated charcoal
4. Oral glucose
5. Oxygen
6. nitroglycerin
7. Epinephrine
8. U.S. Pharmacopoeia
9. indications
10. contraindications
HANDOUT 16-4: Pharmacology Basics Listing

1. Activated charcoal; Oral glucose; Oxygen; Prescribed inhalers; Nitroglycerin; Epinephrine autoinjectors
2. Generic; Chemical; Trade (brand)
3. Oral; Sublingual; Inhaled; Intravenous; Intramuscular; Subcutaneous; Intraosseous; Endotracheal
4. Right patient; Right medication; Right dose; Right route; Right time
5. *U.S. Pharmacopoeia (USP), Physician’s Desk Reference (PDR)*

HANDOUT 16-5: Drug Flash Cards

**Card 1**: Activated charcoal; Suspension; By mouth (orally)

**Card 2**: A conscious patient with an altered mental status and history of diabetes; Diabetes

**Card 3**: Oxygen; Gas; Inhalation by mouth or nose

**Card 4**: Prescribed inhalers; Albuterol, Ventolin, Proventil, Volmax; Inhalation by mouth

**Card 5**: Chest pain believed to be cardiac in origin; Sublingual; Drop in blood pressure

**Card 6**: Epinephrine autoinjectors; Liquid; Injection
CHAPTER 18

Cardiac Emergencies

HANDOUT 18-1: Evaluating Content Mastery  Student’s Name

EVALUATION

CHAPTER 18 QUIZ

Write the letter of the best answer in the space provided.

_____ 1. The best known symptom of a heart problem is:
   A. difficulty breathing.       C. chest pain.
   B. chills.                    D. headache.

_____ 2. The medical term for difficulty breathing is:
   A. syncope.                  C. dyspnea.
   B. bradypnea.                D. apnea.

_____ 3. If a patient meets nitroglycerin criteria, the maximum number of doses that can be administered is:
   A. one.                      C. three.
   B. two.                     D. four.

_____ 4. Nitroglycerin is administered in all of the following forms, EXCEPT as a(n):
   A. tablet.                   C. patch.
   B. spray.                   D. autoinjector.

_____ 5. Which of the following is NOT a sign of congestive heart failure?
   A. Hypotension               C. Urticaria
6. A malfunction of the heart’s electrical system will generally result in a(n):
   A. embolism.  
   C. aneurysm.  
   B. occlusion.  
   D. dysrhythmia.  

7. Which of the following is a contraindication for the administration of nitroglycerin?
   A. Patient has taken Viagra.
   C. Patient has an abnormal pulse.
   B. Patient has difficulty breathing.
   D. Patient has palpitations.

8. Fluid buildup in the lungs caused by inadequate pumping of the heart is known as:
   A. pulmonary edema.
   C. dysrhythmia.
   B. angina pectoris.
   D. thrombus.

9. The most important component of successful CPR implementation is:
   A. avoiding compression interruptions.
   C. managing the airway first.
   B. good technique.
   D. using two persons.

10. When AEDs deliver shocks inappropriately, the LEAST common cause is:
    A. improper AED use.
    C. improper patient assessment.
    B. poor maintenance.
    D. mechanical error.

11. The primary electrical disturbance resulting in cardiac arrest is:
    A. ventricular fibrillation.
    C. pulseless electrical activity.
    B. ventricular tachycardia.
    D. asystole.
12. Quality compressions when doing CPR include all of the following EXCEPT:
   A. pushing hard.           C. pausing every cycle for pulse check.
   B. pushing fast.           D. allowing full chest recoil.

13. The first step in assessing a patient in cardiac arrest is to:
   A. perform a focused physical exam.       C. verify pulseless.
   B. attach the AED.                  D. obtain a SAMPLE history.

14. All of the following are medications the EMT should give the acute coronary syndrome (ACS) patient EXCEPT:
   A. nitroglycerin.          C. glucose.
   B. oxygen.               D. aspirin.

15. Patients suffering from an occlusion or narrowing of the coronary arteries suffer from:
   A. CAD.         C. CVA.
   B. ACS.        D. COPD.

16. Ideally, an EMT team responding to a cardiac arrest should contact an ALS team:
   A. before arrival on the scene.       C. en route to the hospital.
   B. after collecting a SAMPLE history.  D. after defibrillation.

17. An AED is indicated for all the following patients, EXCEPT a(n):
   A. 11-year-old child.       C. 40-year-old trauma vic-

18. The survival rate is practically nonexistent for a patient who has been in cardiac arrest greater than:
   A. 2 minutes.  C. 1 minute.
   B. 8 minutes.  D. 5 minutes.

19. In cases of cardiac emergencies, the goal of increased public CPR programs is to improve:
   A. the time until 911 is called.
   B. the time it takes EMS to drive to the scene.
   C. the time it takes for emergency responders to hook up an AED.
   D. the victim’s chance for viable survival.

20. Although the assessment is performed in an ABC order, care for a patient in cardiac arrest should be performed in the following order:
   A. CAB.  C. BAC.
   B. BCA.  D. ACB.
IN THE FIELD

REINFORCEMENT

*Read the following real-life situation. Then answer the questions that follow.*

You and your EMT partner respond to a call at the Dauge Corporation. The dispatcher reports an unconscious male about 50 years of age.

Upon your arrival at the scene, the patient’s secretary leads you into an office. Here you see a man lying on the floor next to his desk. “I heard Mr. Kilpatrick yell in pain about 4 or 5 minutes ago,” explains the secretary. “I rushed into his office, but he was already passed out on the floor.”

You conduct an initial assessment of the patient and determine that he is unresponsive, apneic, and pulseless. An ALS team is en route.

1. What should be your first action?

2. What is the proper sequence for applying the AED?

3. What three components are required for quality CPR?

4. What should be your next action?

5. The ALS team informs you of an ETA of 15 minutes. What criteria should you use to determine the correct time for transporting the patient?
CHAPTER 18 REVIEW

Write the word or words that best complete each sentence in the space provided.

1. ___________________ ___________________ occurs when a person’s normal heart-beat and circulation of blood have completely stopped.

2. The application of an electrical shock to the chest to restart the heart’s normal action is known as ___________________.

3. The blanket term that refers to any kind of problem with the heart is ___________________ ___________________.

4. The best known symptom of a heart problem is ___________________ ___________________.

5. Typically, a heart patient describes this pain as ___________________.
   ___________________, ___________________ or ___________________.

6. The medical term for difficulty breathing is ___________________.

7. The medical term for a pulse rate slower than 60 beats per minute is ___________________.

8. The medical term for a pulse rate faster than 100 beats per minute is ___________________.

9. The three drugs that an EMT may administer to a cardiac patient, with the approval of medical direction, are ___________________, ____________________, and ___________________.

10. Most heart problems in infants and small children are ___________________ in nature.

11. With coronary artery disease, the amount of blood passing through the artery is
12. Factors that put a person at risk of coronary disease and that cannot be changed are ________________ and ________________.

13. Angina pectoris, literally “a pain in the chest,” is most often brought on by ________________ and ________________.

14. Fluid accumulation in the lungs caused by an inadequate pumping of the heart produces a condition called ________________ ________________ ________________.

15. The two most important factors in determining survival from cardiac arrest are ________________ ________________ and ________________ ________________.

16. The two types of “shockable rhythms” for an AED unit are ________________ ________________ and ________________ ________________.

17. The two types of “nonshockable rhythms” for an AED unit are ________________ ________________ ________________ and ________________ ________________.

18. If an AED delivers shocks inappropriately, the most common cause is ________________ ________________.

19. A contraindication of the administration of nitroglycerin is if the patient has a pulse rate below ________________ or above ________________.

20. You should do no more than ________________ cycles of analyze, shock/no shock advised, and CPR before beginning transport unless indicated otherwise by local protocol.
LISTING CARDIAC EMERGENCY BASICS

Complete the following lists.

1. List seven signs and symptoms often associated with cardiac compromise.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. List the seven steps for the emergency care of a patient with suspected acute coronary syndrome.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

3. List the six conditions that must be met before assisting a patient with the administration of nitroglycerin.

________________________________________________________________________
4. List five factors that can be modified to reduce the risk of coronary disease.

5. List the five elements in the American Heart Association’s “chain of survival.”
HANDOUT 18-5: Reinforcing Content Mastery  Student’s Name

CARDIAC VOCABULARY MATCHING

Write the letter of the term in the space next to the appropriate description.

A. Acute myocardial infarction
B. Aneurysm
C. Angina pectoris
D. Apnea
E. Dysrhythmia
F. Thrombus
G. Asystole
H. Nitroglycerin
I. Bradycardia
J. Congestive heart failure
K. Dyspnea
L. Edema
M. Embolism
N. Occlusion
O. Pedal edema
P. Pulmonary edema
Q. Sudden death
R. Tachycardia
S. Ventricular fibrillation
T. Ventricular tachycardia
1. A clot formed of blood and plaque attached to the inner wall of an artery or vein
2. Swelling caused by a buildup of fluid in the tissues
3. Slow pulse, usually below 60 bpm
4. Disturbance in heart rate and rhythm
5. Dilation of a weakened section of an arterial wall
6. Rapid heartbeat that does not allow the heart’s chambers to fill up with enough blood to meet the body’s needs
7. Cardiac arrest within two hours of onset of symptoms
8. Rapid pulse, usually above 100 bpm
9. Moving blood clot or plaque that broke loose from an artery wall
10. Accumulation of fluid at the feet or ankles
11. Difficulty breathing
12. A medication that dilates the blood vessels
13. Condition in which part of the heart muscle dies from oxygen starvation
14. Failure of the heart to pump efficiently, leading to excessive fluid in the lungs, body, or both
15. Blockage, as of an artery by fatty deposits
16. Condition in which disorganized electrical impulses prevent the heart muscle from contracting normally
17. Pain in the chest due to reduced supply of blood and oxygen to a portion of the heart muscle
18. Accumulation of fluid in the lungs
19. Condition in which breathing has ceased
20. Condition in which the heart has ceased generating electrical impulses
**COMPLETING AN AED FLOWCHART**

*Place the following actions in the correct sequence in the flowchart.*

**Cardiac Arrest Treatment Sequence with Automated External Defibrillator**

- Turn AED on.
- Press *analyze* button.
- Have partner start CPR.
- Apply AED and clear patient.
- Verify arrest: unresponsive, apneic, and pulseless.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shock indicated (SI)</th>
<th>No shock indicated (NSI)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Press <em>analyze</em> button.</td>
<td>• Perform two minutes (five cycles) of CPR.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• If SI, deliver one more shock if AED gives SI message.</td>
<td>• Press <em>analyze</em> button.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• If patient does not wake up, perform two minutes (five cycles) of CPR.</td>
<td>• Perform CPR for two minutes (five cycles).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• After three shocks, prepare for transport. Follow local protocols for additional shocks.</td>
<td>• No shock indicated (NSI).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliver 1 shock if AED gives SI message.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CARDIAC ARREST TREATMENT SEQUENCE
with AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR

Check pulse. If none, do CPR and transport.
Chapter 18 Answer Key

HANDOUT 18-1: Chapter 18 Quiz

1. C
2. C
3. C
4. D
5. C
6. D
7. A
8. A
9. A
10. D
11. A
12. C
13. C
14. C
15. A
16. A
17. C
18. B
19. D
20. A
HANDOUT 18-2: In the Field

1. Have your partner start CPR while you set up the AED unit.

2. (a) Turn on the defibrillator. (b) Attach the monitor defibrillation pads to the cables. (c) Bare the patient’s chest and check for a nitroglycerin patch. (d) Correctly place the pads, ensuring good contact. The pad attached to the white cable should be placed in the angle between the sternum and the right clavicle. The one attached to the red cable should be placed over the lower left ribs. (White to right, red to ribs.)

3. Push hard, push fast, and allow full chest recoil between each compression.

4. After performing five cycles of 30 compressions to two ventilations (about two minutes of CPR), press the analyze button on the AED and deliver a shock according to protocol if indicated. Once the shock has been delivered, continue CPR for another five cycles, or if the patient moves, assist with ventilations as needed with high-concentration oxygen.

5. Criteria are when the patient has a pulse or starts to move, after three shocks have been delivered, or when the AED advises with three consecutive NSI (no shock indicated) separated by two minutes of CPR.

HANDOUT 18-3: Chapter 18 Review

1. Cardiac arrest
2. defibrillation
3. cardiac compromise
4. chest pain
5. crushing, dull, heavy, squeezing
6. dyspnea
7. bradycardia
8. tachycardia
9. oxygen, aspirin, and nitroglycerin
10. congenital
11. restricted (reduced)
12. heredity, age
13. stress, exertion
14. congestive heart failure
15. early defibrillation, quality CPR
16. ventricular fibrillation, ventricular tachycardia
17. pulseless electrical activity, asystole
18. human error
19. 50; 100
20. three

HANDOUT 18-4: Listing Cardiac Emergency Basics

1. Chest pain; Difficulty breathing (dyspnea); Anxiety; Nausea and pain or discomfort in the upper abdomen (epigastric pain); Sweating; Abnormal pulse or blood pressure; Palpitations
2. Place the patient in a position of comfort, typically sitting up. Apply high-concentration oxygen through a nonrebreather mask. Transport immediately if the patient has (a) no history of cardiac problems, (b) a history of cardiac problems but does not have nitroglycerin, or (c) a systolic blood pressure of less than 100 (or as established by local protocol). Obtain a 12-lead EKG if authorized. Give the patient nitroglycerin. Repeat the nitroglycerin dose every
five minutes if conditions are met. Give the patient aspirin.

3. The patient complains of chest pain. The patient has a history of cardiac problems. The patient’s physician has prescribed nitroglycerin. The patient has the nitroglycerin with him.

   The systolic blood pressure is greater than 90 (or as established per local protocol). Medical direction authorizes another dose of the medication.

4. Hypertension (high blood pressure); Obesity; Lack of exercise; Elevated blood levels of cholesterol and triglycerides; Cigarette smoking

5. Immediate recognition and activation; Early CPR; Rapid defibrillation; Effective advanced life support; Integrated postcardiac arrest care

**HANDOUT 18-5: Cardiac Vocabulary Matching**

1. F
2. L
3. I
4. E
5. B
6. T
7. Q
8. R
9. M
10. O
11. K
12. H
13. A
14. J
15. N
16. S
17. C
18. P
19. D
20. G

HANDOUT 18-6: Completing an AED Flowchart
CARCIAL ARREST TREATMENT SEQUENCE
with AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR

Verify arrest: unresponsive, apneic, and pulseless.

Have partner start CPR.

Turn AED on.

Apply AED and clear patient.

Press analyze button.

**Shock indicated (SI)**
- Deliver 1 shock if AED gives SI message.
- If patient does not wake up, perform 2 minutes (5 cycles) of CPR.
- Press analyze button.
- If SI, deliver 1 more shock if AED gives SI message.
- After 3 shocks, prepare for transport and follow local protocols for additional shocks.

**No shock indicated (NSI)**
- Perform CPR for 2 minutes (5 cycles).
- Press analyze button.
- No shock indicated (NSI).
- Perform 2 minutes (5 cycles) of CPR.

Check pulse. If none, do CPR and transport.
CHAPTER 20

Allergic Reaction

Handout 20-1: Evaluating Content Mastery  Student’s Name

EVALUATION

CHAPTER 20 QUIZ

Write the letter of the best answer in the space provided.

_____ 1. A very severe, life-threatening allergic reaction may be referred to as:
   A. hypotension.  C. antibodies.
   B. anaphylaxis.  D. hypoxemia.

_____ 2. A food that produces one of the most severe and rapid allergic reactions is:
   A. shellfish.  C. peanuts.
   B. milk.  D. eggs.

_____ 3. An EMT who notices that his hands are red and itchy after a call is probably experiencing an allergic reaction to:
   A. latex.  C. hand lotion.
   B. talcum powder.  D. heat exposure.

_____ 4. Signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction include all of the following EXCEPT:
   A. itching.  C. decreased blood pressure.
   B. increased appetite.  D. watery eyes.

_____ 5. The medical name for shock, a condition associated with extreme allergic
reactions, is:
A. hypotension. C. hypotonic.
B. hypoperfusion. D. hypoxemia.

_____ 6. Anaphylaxis is differentiated from an allergic reaction by:
A. respiratory distress. C. itching.
B. hives. D. swelling.

_____ 7. Epinephrine is most commonly administered as a(n):
A. tablet. C. prescribed inhaler.
B. gel. D. autoinjector.

_____ 8. When administered as a medication, epinephrine will accomplish all the following EXCEPT:
A. constrict blood vessels. C. dilate the bronchioles.
B. lower blood pressure. D. improve perfusion.

_____ 9. The dose of epinephrine that should be given to children under 66 pounds is:
A. 0.5 mg. C. 0.15 mg.
B. 0.3 mg. D. 0.05 mg.

_____ 10. Administration of epinephrine needs to be carefully documented because of its powerful effects on the:
A. heart. C. kidneys.
Reinforcing Content Mastery  Student’s Name

REINFORCEMENT

IN THE FIELD

*Read the following real-life situations. Then answer the questions that follow.*

The patient is a 10-year-old boy with a known history of allergies and asthma. His mother tells you that she administered his EpiPen five minutes before your arrival. However, you believe that she gave it incorrectly. “He pulled away when I tried to give the shot,” explains the mother. “I saw some of the medicine form a mist in the air.”

You examine the arm where the mother says that she gave the injection but find no puncture mark. The child’s distress has worsened since your arrival, and he now seems barely conscious.

“I have three more EpiPens,” offers the mother.

**1.** What action(s) should you take at this time?

The patient is an unconscious construction worker named Danny. “He had barely started to work with some fiberglass insulation when he fainted,” explains one of his coworkers.

You ask the coworkers more questions and find out that Danny was sneezing and coughing just before he fainted. They also noticed that he was using a handkerchief to wipe his watery eyes and runny nose. “He usually wears a respiratory mask on the job site,” adds one of the coworkers, “but he forgot to bring it today.”

Upon conducting a physical examination of the patient, you find a Medic Alert tag indicating that Danny has a number of allergies. His vital signs include a blood pressure of 70/42 and a weak pulse of 136. During your primary assessment, the foreman hands you an EpiPen. “I found this in Danny’s lunch box,” he says. “Will it help?”

**2.** What action(s) should you take at this time?
CHAPTER 20 REVIEW

Write the word or words that best complete each sentence in the space provided.

1. An exaggerated reaction of the body’s immune system to some foreign material is called a(n) ________________ ________________.

2. The wide variety of substances that trigger an allergic reaction are called ________________.

3. A severe, life-threatening reaction to a foreign substance is called ________________ ________________.

4. After the first exposure to an allergen, the immune system forms ________________ to “attack” this substance in the future.

5. EMTs and other health care professionals sometimes develop a severe allergic reaction to the ________________ in their gloves.

6. Red, itchy, possibly raised blotches on the skin are known as ________________.

7. To manage a patient’s airway and breathing during an allergic reaction, an EMT should apply ________________ - ________________ ________________ through a ________________ ________________.

8. When administered as a medication, epinephrine will ________________ blood vessels and improve the ________________ of tissues.

9. A spring-loaded needle and syringe with a single dose of epinephrine is known as a(n) ________________ - ________________.

10. The correct dose of epinephrine for an adult is ________________ mg; for a child, it is ________________.
___________ mg.
ALLERGIC REACTION TRUE OR FALSE

Indicate if the following statements are true or false by writing T or F in the space provided.

1. An individual must come into contact with an allergen a second time for an anaphylactic reaction to occur.  
2. An antibody will combine with only the allergen it was formed in response to (or another similar allergen).  
3. After 15 to 20 minutes, a patient suffering an allergic reaction has little risk of slipping into anaphylactic shock.  
4. During an allergic reaction, you can expect to discover a higher-than-average blood pressure.  
5. Epinephrine autoinjectors cannot be administered to unconscious patients.  
6. Epinephrine has no contraindications when used in a life-threatening situation.  
7. A possible side effect of epinephrine is chest pain.  
8. Some anaphylactic reactions require repeated doses of epinephrine before the allergic reaction stops.  
9. When the signs and symptoms of allergic reaction include either respiratory distress or signs and symptoms of shock, assume you are dealing with a severe allergic reaction.  
10. The patient with a localized reaction should receive epinephrine, while the patient with a generalized reaction should not.
CHECKING SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF ANAPHYLAXIS

Place a check mark in front of the signs and symptoms commonly associated with anaphylaxis, or anaphylactic shock.

- [ ] Increased pulse
- [ ] Constipation
- [ ] Decreased respirations
- [ ] Increased appetite
- [ ] Vomiting
- [ ] Altered mental status
- [ ] Flushed, dry skin
- [ ] Absent radial and/or pedal pulses
- [ ] Diarrhea
- [ ] Pale, cool, clammy skin
- [ ] Frequent urination
- [ ] Decreased pulse
- [ ] Increased respirations
- [ ] Decreased blood pressure
- [ ] Feeling of impending doom
- [ ] Stridor
Chapter 20 Answer Key

HANDOUT 20-1: Chapter 20 Quiz


HANDOUT 20-2: In the Field

1. Sample response: Expect variations based on local regional protocols. Good responses from students should focus on treatment principles rather than specific protocols. After performing the primary assessment, establish contact with medical direction and request permission to administer a second dose of epinephrine and/or provide additional instructions. Complete the secondary assessment. Provide rapid transport and/or consider an ALS intercept. The patient’s remaining epinephrine autoinjectors should be taken on the ambulance. Reassess the patient every five minutes.

2. Sample response: Complete all steps in the primary assessment. Secure the airway with the appropriate airway adjunct (OPA/NPA) and provide high-concentration oxygen via bag-valve mask. Call for an ALS intercept if available and/or begin rapid transport as soon as possible. The patient is unconscious and in anaphylactic shock; therefore, he meets the criteria for epinephrine administration. Contact medical direction and request to administer the patient’s epinephrine. Confirm that the epinephrine autoinjector belongs to the patient and that it is not expired. After using the autoinjector, dispose of it in the appropriate sharps container. Review and confirm the “Five Rights” of medication administration prior to administration and record the time of administration. Complete the secondary assessment, and reassess the patient every five minutes.
HANDOUT 20-3: Chapter 20 Review

1. allergic reaction
2. allergens
3. anaphylactic shock
4. antibodies
5. latex
6. hives
7. high-concentration oxygen; nonrebreather mask
8. constrict; perfusion
9. autoinjector
10. 0.3; 0.15

HANDOUT 20-4: Allergic Reaction True or False


HANDOUT 20-5: Checking Signs and Symptoms of Anaphylaxis

Check marks should appear before all of the following conditions: Increased pulse; Vomiting; Al- tered mental status; Flushed, dry skin; Absent radial and/or pedal pulses; Pale, cool, clammy skin; Increased respirations; Decreased blood pressure; Feeling of impending doom; Stridor.
CHAPTER 21

Poisoning and Overdose Emergencies

Handout 21-1: Evaluating Content Mastery  Student’s Name

EVALUATION

CHAPTER 21 QUIZ

Write the letter of the best answer in the space provided.

_____ 1. The annual number of poisoning cases in the United States each year is about:

   A. ½ million.  C. 2 million.
   B. 1 million.  D. 5 million.

_____ 2. The factor that is LEAST important in determining the effect of a poison is a patient’s:

   A. gender.  C. weight.
   B. age.  D. general health.

_____ 3. Carbon monoxide is an example of an:

   A. ingested poison.  C. absorbed poison.
   B. inhaled poison.  D. injected poison.

_____ 4. The LEAST acceptable method for providing ventilations to patients who have ingested poisons is use of:

   A. mouth-to-mouth ventilations.
   B. a pocket face mask with a one-way valve.
C. positive pressure ventilation.

D. a bag-valve mask unit with supplemental oxygen.

5. Activated charcoal is indicated in some cases of:
   A. injected poisoning.  C. absorbed poisoning.
   B. inhaled poisoning.  D. ingested poisoning.

6. Contraindications to activated charcoal include all of the following EXCEPT:
   A. unresponsive.  C. inability to swallow.
   B. tachypnea.  D. ingestion of an alkali.

7. Modern treatment of ingested poisoning and overdose consists primarily of:
   A. administration of an antidote.  C. inducement of vomiting.

8. The most frequent victims of poisoning are:
   B. drug abusers.  D. teenagers.

9. In treating cases of inhaled poisons, the drug of first choice is:
   A. activated charcoal.  C. glucose.

10. All the following are typical signs and symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning EXCEPT:
    A. cherry red skin.  C. nausea.
    B. cyanosis.  D. altered mental status.
11. Sooty sputum, singed nose hairs, hoarseness, and difficulty breathing are signs of:
   A. carbon monoxide poisoning.  C. food poisoning.
   B. smoke inhalation.  D. pesticide inhalation.

12. The primary step in treating a patient with absorbed liquid poisoning is:
   A. administration of oxygen.  C. neutralization of the acid or alkali.
   B. irrigation of the skin.  D. administration of an antidote.

13. All the following are signs and symptoms of alcohol withdrawal EXCEPT:
   A. confusion and restlessness.  C. convulsions and seizures.
   B. gross tremors of the hands.  D. abdominal cramps and diarrhea.

14. Mind-affecting drugs that act on the central nervous system to distort sensory perceptions are known as:
   A. uppers.  C. narcotics.
   B. downers.  D. hallucinogens.

15. Reduced pulse rate, constricted pupils, profuse sweating, and reduced depth of breathing indicate the possible use of:
   A. amphetamines (uppers).  C. hallucinogens.
   B. narcotics.  D. barbiturates (downers).
IN THE FIELD

*Read the following real-life situation. Then answer the questions that follow.*

The emergency medical dispatcher sends you to a residence at 32 Hillside Drive. The young woman who placed the 911 call is waiting for you on the doorstep, even though the day is chilly. The woman reports that she dropped by the house to visit her friend Bill Wrye and saw through the window that he was passed out on the couch. The door was unlocked, so she went in to try to wake him but couldn’t. She tells you, “I wanted to stay and help him, but I just started feeling so bad. I felt sick to my stomach and my head hurt, almost like there was a band around it. Then I remembered that Bill had been having trouble with his furnace and was using a kerosene heater until he could get the furnace fixed. So I was afraid maybe something was wrong with the heater and came outside and called 911 from my cell phone. What’s going on?”

1. Based on your scene size-up, what answer would you give the woman?
2. What action(s) would you take?
CHAPTER 21 REVIEW

Write the word or words that best complete each sentence in the space provided.

1. The largest number of poisoning victims are _________________________.

2. Many living organisms, such as mushrooms and a variety of houseplants, are capable of producing a(n) _________________________, or substance that is poisonous to humans.

3. In some cases of ingested poisoning, medical direction will order administration of _________________________ _________________________.

4. When a patient has ingested a poison, provide ventilations through a(n) _________________________ _________________________ with a one-way valve.

5. Many people think that every poison has a(n) _________________________, a substance that will neutralize its effects, but this is not _________________________.

6. Modern treatment for ingested poisoning consists primarily of _________________________ _________________________

7. As an EMT, always assume that an infant or a child has ingested a(n) _________________________ amount of poison.

8. The principal prehospital treatment of inhaled poisoning consists of _________________________ _________________________

_________________________ and _________________________

_________________________.
9. __________________________ __________________________ is one of the most common inhaled poisons.

10. It must not be forgotten that alcohol is a potent __________________________ and has a profound effect on the __________________________ __________________________ system.

11. The patient suffering from alcohol withdrawal may experience seizures or __________________________ __________________________.

12. The patient under the influence of alcohol cannot make a(n) __________________________ __________________________ of treatment or transport.

13. __________________________ stimulate(s) the central nervous system and excite the user, while __________________________ depress(es) the central nervous system and relax(es) the user.

14. Cleaning fluid, glue, and model cement are commonly abused __________________________ __________________________.

15. When treating intravenous drug users, take __________________________ __________________________ and follow all __________________________ __________________________ procedures.
POISONING AND OVERDOSE LISTING

Complete the following lists.

1. List the four main types of poisons.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. List the seven questions that should be asked during assessment of a patient with ingested poisoning.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

3. List three contraindications for administration of activated charcoal.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
4. List the five emergency care steps in treating patients with inhaled poisoning.

_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________

5. List five commonly abused drugs and chemical substances encountered by EMTs in the field.

_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
POISONING AND OVERDOSE MATCHING

Write the letter of the type of poisoning next to the appropriate scenario below.

A.  Ingested poisoning
B.  Inhaled poisoning
C.  Absorbed poisoning
D.  Injected poisoning

1. You are called to a suburban home to assist an 18-year-old male who has been found on the floor of his bathroom. He has a reduced pulse rate and reduced rate of breathing. His pupils are constricted to pinpoint size. He seems very sleepy and unresponsive. There is a homemade tourniquet tied around his upper arm. You find a hypodermic needle behind a clothes hamper.

2. A 19-year-old male farm worker stumbles while carrying an open drum of pesticides. The powder spills all over his clothes and body. Within minutes, a stinging, burning sensation spreads across his hands, arms, neck, and face. “It’s like being on fire,” he tells another farmhand. “Get some help fast!”

3. A 38-year-old woman collapses on the floor of her garage while cleaning out her car. She had left the car idling so that she could listen to her favorite radio station without running down the battery. By the time her husband discovers her, the woman is barely breathing. He rushes to call an EMS unit.

4. A 45-year-old man in extreme pain from a recent back operation decides to double
his self-administered dosage of Demerol. By the end of the day, he feels extremely lethargic and is sweating profusely. His pupils are constricted. Sensing trouble, his teenage son calls the nearest ambulance service.
POISONING AND OVERDOSE TRUE OR FALSE

Indicate if the following statements are true or false by writing T or F in the space provided.

_____ 1. Most poisoning cases result from suicide attempts.
_____ 2. People generally have similar reactions to toxic or poisonous substances.
_____ 3. When providing assisted ventilation in cases of ingested poisoning, an EMT should avoid mouth-to-mouth resuscitations.
_____ 5. The primary treatment of a patient who has ingested a poison is administration of an antidote.
_____ 6. The most effective drug for inhaled poisons is oxygen.
_____ 7. A common sign of carbon monoxide poisoning is cherry red skin.
_____ 8. As an EMT, you should contact a poison control center only if local protocols allow.
_____ 9. Under the influence of alcohol, a patient cannot make an informed refusal of treatment or transport.
_____ 10. As an EMT, you will need to know the names of the many abused drugs and their specific reactions.
Chapter 21 Answer Key

HANDOUT 21-1: Chapter 21 Quiz

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

HANDOUT 21-2: In the Field

1. “It is likely that your friend may have been overcome by carbon monoxide fumes from the heater.”

2. The scene is unsafe. Move the patient, your partner, and yourself to a safe, well-ventilated area. Contact dispatch and request that the fire department be called to the scene for patient
rescue and scene stabilization. Remember that you have two patients, the woman and her
friend. Prioritize treatment, and consider requesting an additional unit or more. Once the pa-
tient is brought to you by trained fire/rescue crews, perform the primary assessment, secure
the airway with the appropriate adjunct (NPA/OPA), and administer high-concentration oxy-
gen via nonrebreather or bag-valve mask as indicated. Provide rapid transportation for the pa-
tient to the appropriate facility (ideally, one with a hyperbaric chamber), and perform the sec-
secondary assessment. Consider an ALS intercept. The patient’s friend also needs to be assessed
in a similar manner, and high-flow oxygen via nonrebreather mask should be administered. If
practical, have a second unit take over care of this patient.

HANDOUT 21-3: Chapter 21 Review

1. children
2. toxin
3. activated charcoal
4. pocket mask
5. antidote; true
6. prevention of absorption
7. lethal
8. maintaining the airway; supporting ventilation
9. Carbon monoxide
10. drug; central nervous
11. delirium tremens
12. informed refusal
13. Uppers; downers
14. volatile chemicals

15. Standard Precautions; infection exposure control

**HANDOUT 21-4:** Poisoning and Overdose Listing

1. Ingested poisons; Inhaled poisons; Absorbed poisons; Injected poisons

2. What substance was involved? When did the exposure occur? How much was ingested?

   Over how long a period did the ingestion occur? What interventions have the patient, family, or well-meaning bystanders taken? What is the patient’s estimated weight? What effects is the patient experiencing from the ingestion?

3. Altered mental status; Ingestion of acids or alkalis; Inability to swallow

4. Remove the patient to a safe environment so that the immediate life-threatening conditions can be detected and treated. Perform a focused history and physical exam, including SAM- PLE history and vital signs. Administer high-concentration oxygen. Transport the patient with all containers, bottles, and labels from the substance. Perform ongoing assessment en route.

5. Uppers; Downers; Narcotics; Hallucinogens; Volatile chemicals

**HANDOUT 21-5:** Poisoning and Overdose Matching


**HANDOUT 21-6:** Poisoning and Overdose True or False

1. F

2. F

3. T
4. T
5. F
6. T
7. F
8. T
9. T
10. F.
CHAPTER 22

Abdominal Emergencies

HANDOUT 22-1: Evaluating Content Mastery  Student’s Name

EVALUATION

CHAPTER 22 QUIZ

Write the letter of the best answer in the space provided.

1. Pain that originates in the walls of the hollow organs is called:
   A. visceral. C. tearing.
   B. parietal. D. referred.

2. The mnemonic used to help remember questions to ask regarding pain for a patient with an abdominal complaint is:
   A. DCAP. C. OPQRST.
   B. BTLS. D. AVPU.

3. Pain that is felt in a place other than where it originates is called:
   A. visceral. C. tearing.
   B. parietal. D. referred.

4. Which of the following conditions in females is a life-threatening emergency?
   A. Mittelschmerz  C. Premenstrual syndrome
   B. Ectopic pregnancy  D. Cramps

5. Which of the following signs indicates internal bleeding?
A. Greenish emesis  C. Mucous in emesis and feces
B. Sweet smell to emesis  D. Coffee-ground-like emesis

6. Which type of medication can cause bleeding in the stomach?
A. Diabetes medication  C. Epinephrine
B. Aspirin  D. Albuterol

7. What term is used to indicate voluntary or involuntary protecting of the abdomen to prevent further pain upon palpation?
A. Guarding  C. Checking
B. Reacting  D. Auscultation

8. The best position in which to place a conscious patient with acute abdominal pain is:
A. recovery position.  C. position of comfort.
B. prone.  D. guarded.

9. A patient with pain in the right lower quadrant (RLQ) is most likely suffering from which of the following?
A. Abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA)  C. Gallstones
B. Pancreatitis  D. Appendicitis

10. The retroperitoneal space contains which of the following organs?
A. Kidney  C. Spleen
B. Liver  D. Gallbladder
IN THE FIELD

*Read the following real-life situation. Then answer the questions that follow.*

The patient is a 78-year-old male who lives alone. He has a health aide who comes in twice a week. On this particular day when the health aide arrived, he found Mr. Harris sitting on the couch looking very pale and breathing a little harder than usual. Concerned for Mr. Harris’s health, the aide decided to call 911. You are dispatched to the residence, and upon arrival you encounter the aide, who informs you that he believes that Mr. Harris is seriously ill. When the patient is asked what is wrong; he tells you that he has been feeling poorly since last night. His breathing appears slightly labored and faster than normal.

1. What action(s) should you take at this time?

The primary assessment identifies that the patient is breathing at a rate of 28, and it appears shallow. He has a pulse of 72, and his skin is moist and pale. You take a SAMPLE history and determine that he is taking a beta blocker and has had mild abdominal pain since last night. He tells you that he went to the bathroom and his stools looked black. He felt light-headed and made his way to the couch where he has been until his aide arrived. He claims that he has never had an episode like this before, and his only medical history is high blood pressure. Your partner takes a BP and finds it to be 100/70. The health aide tells you the blood pressure is lower than usual.

2. What action(s) should you take at this time?
CHAPTER 22 REVIEW

Write the word or words that best complete each sentence in the space provided.

1. The four quadrants of the abdomen are:
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

2. Most organs of the abdomen are enclosed in the ________________________________.

3. Four classic patterns of abdominal pain are:
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

4. The OPQRST mnemonic for assessing pain/distress stands for:
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
5. Tearing pain that is felt in the back is a symptom of what serious medical problem?

6. When a patient draws his arms across the abdomen in response to pain, this is called:

7. Patients experiencing severe flank pain are most likely suffering from:
ABDOMINAL PAIN AND DISCOMFORT TRUE OR FALSE

Indicate if the following statements are true or false by writing T or F in the space provided.

____ 1. Upper quadrant abdominal pain can be signs of a myocardial infarction or other cardiac problem.

____ 2. “Cramps and colicky” is a description of parietal pain.

____ 3. The T in the OPQRST mnemonic stands for tenderness.

____ 4. Tearing pain is a sign of an abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA).

____ 5. Ectopic pregnancy should always be considered as a potential problem when a woman of childbearing age has abdominal pain.

____ 6. A coffee-ground-like substance in vomitus is a sign of internal bleeding.

____ 7. Elderly people have no decreased ability to perceive pain.

____ 8. During the assessment, palpate the abdomen before you inspect it.

____ 9. Whenever possible, a patient with abdominal pain should be transported in a position of comfort.

____ 10. The EMT can be confident that there is no serious problem with the abdomen if the assessment shows no abnormal findings.
Chapter 22 Answer Key

HANDOUT 22-1: Chapter 22 Quiz


HANDOUT 22-2: In the Field

1. Perform a primary assessment and treat any life-threatening conditions you find during the assessment.

2. The information from the assessment is suggestive of internal bleeding. He has a borderline low blood pressure, which is not normal for him; dark tarry stools; episodes of dizziness; and pale, moist skin. In addition, the patient’s prescribed beta blocker medication could be masking the severity of the patient’s condition. The patient needs to be treated for potential hypovolemic shock (hypoperfusion) caused by the bleeding. He should be placed on high-flow oxygen by nonrebreather mask. The patient should be placed in a position of comfort and promptly transported to the hospital. An ALS intercept should be considered. A secondary assessment should be performed. The patient should be reassessed every five minutes.

HANDOUT 22-3: Review

1. Upper right quadrant
   - Upper left quadrant
   - Lower right quadrant
   - Lower left quadrant

2. peritoneum
3. Visceral
   Parietal
   Tearing
   Referred
4. Onset
   Provocation/palliation
   Quality
   Region/radiation
   Severity
   Time
5. Abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA)
6. Guarding
7. Renal colic (kidney stones)

**HANDOUT 22-4: Abdominal pain and discomfort True or False**

1. T 5. T 8. F
3. F 7. F 10. F
4. T
CHAPTER 23

Behavioral and Psychiatric Emergencies and Suicide

Handout 23-1: Evaluating Content Mastery  Student’s Name

EVALUATION

Chapter 23 Quiz

Write the letter of the best answer in the space provided.

1. A situation in which a person exhibits actions that are unacceptable to the patient, family, or community is known as:
   A. a panic attack.  C. a behavioral emergency.
   B. depression.  D. psychosis.

2. The medical condition most likely to cause a rapid onset of erratic behavior, dizziness, and profuse perspiration is:
   A. low blood sugar.  C. head trauma.
   B. lack of oxygen.  D. stroke.

3. In which of the following medical conditions is cyanosis (blue or gray skin) most likely to be one of the signs?
   A. Low blood sugar  C. Alcohol overdose
   B. Excessive heat  D. Lack of oxygen

4. The medical condition most likely to cause confusion, impaired speech, paralysis of extremities on one side, and vomiting is:
   A. low blood sugar.  C. excessive heat.
B. stroke. D. lack of oxygen.

5. The first step that an EMT takes in a behavioral emergency is to:
   A. gather a thorough patient history.
   B. complete an initial assessment.
   C. identify herself.
   D. perform a careful scene size-up.

6. A medical condition that can closely mimic a psychiatric condition is:
   A. diabetes. C. psychosis.
   B. depression. D. mania.

7. In talking with a behavioral patient, an EMT should take all of the following actions EXCEPT:
   A. identifying himself.
   B. avoiding direct eye contact.
   C. being as honest as possible.
   D. standing at least three feet from the patient.

8. Of the groups listed, the highest suicide rates have been found in people ages:

9. A patient who has attempted suicide in the past is:
   A. looking for attention.
   B. less likely to commit suicide than one who has not.
   C. a candidate for forceful restraint.
   D. more likely to commit suicide than one who has not.
10. Which of the following cannot order the restraint of an adult patient?

A. Medical direction   C. Law enforcement officials
B. The patient’s physician   D. The patient’s family
IN THE FIELD

Read the following real-life situation. Then answer the questions that follow.

The emergency medical dispatcher reports a 16-year-old girl who is “acting bizarre.” Her mother is currently trying to keep her from leaving the house.

Upon the EMS unit’s arrival at the scene, the mother guides the team into the house. She states that her daughter has been depressed for the past few weeks. Today the daughter’s behavior changed dramatically. Instead of acting lethargic, her daughter has become very hyperactive. The mother indicates that the family has a history of manic depression. “The doctor has a new word for it,” laughs the mother nervously. “They call it bipolar disorder.” The mother indicates that her daughter is on medication for the condition but feels that she has stopped using it. The girl’s psychiatrist recommended that the mother call 911.

The mother takes you to meet her daughter, Annie. You see a clean, well-dressed young woman who appears to be happy. She speaks very fast and occasionally exhibits muscle twitches of the face and hands. Although Annie indicates no physical complaints, her vital signs are on the high side of normal. She doesn’t want to talk about her medical condition. She also doesn’t want to be transported to the hospital. With her eyes averted, Annie says a little too lightly, “My mother worries much too much. I’m just fine.”

1. How should you proceed with patient care?
2. What communication techniques might you use to persuade the patient to accompany you to the hospital?
CHAPTER 23 REVIEW

Write the word or words that best complete each sentence in the space provided.

1. ______________________ is defined as the manner in which a person acts or performs.

2. A(n) ______________________ ______________________ exists when a person exhibits abnormal behavior.

3. There are many ______________________ and ______________________ conditions as well as psychological conditions that are likely to alter a patient’s behavior.

4. By acting in a calm manner, an EMT is applying ______________________ ______________________ techniques to a behavior emergency.

5. In providing patient care during a behavioral emergency, an EMT should treat any life-threatening conditions during the ______________________ ______________________.

6. In talking with a patient experiencing a behavioral emergency, avoid unnecessary ______________________ and quick ______________________.

7. Whenever you are called to care for a patient who has attempted suicide, your first concern must be for ______________________ ______________________.

8. The highest suicide rates occur at ages ______________________ to ______________________.

9. Your assessment of the aggressive or hostile patient may never go beyond the ______________________ ______________________ phase.

10. Patients who have been improperly restrained may die of a type of breathing impairment
known as ______________________ ______________________.
LISTING BEHAVIORAL AND PSYCHIATRIC EMERGENCIES AND SUICIDE

1. List seven medical and traumatic conditions that are likely to alter a person's behavior.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. List eight general rules for dealing with a patient who is experiencing a behavioral or psychiatric emergency.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
BEHAVIORAL EMERGENCY TRUE OR FALSE

Indicate if the following statements are true or false by writing T or F in the space provided.

____ 1. During a behavioral emergency, an EMT should only call the police as a last resort.

____ 2. When dealing with a behavior patient, always consider that the condition may be caused by a physiological condition.

____ 3. Whenever an EMT is called to the scene of a suicide attempt, her first concern should be for the patient’s safety.

____ 4. A person who has exhibited a sudden improvement from depression is a low risk for suicide.

____ 5. If a patient’s fear or aggression increases, an EMT should not push the issue of transport.

____ 6. In treating a behavioral emergency, an EMT should not follow the patient into the kitchen.

____ 7. Once a patient is acting rationally, an EMT may remove soft restraints.

____ 8. Patients can die from improper placement of restraints.

____ 9. Aggressive behavior is a valid reason to not assess the patient.

____ 10. A psychiatric patient who refused emergency care or transport is a significant medical/legal risk for EMS agencies and EMTs.
Chapter 23 Answer Key

HANDOUT 23-1: Chapter 23 Quiz


HANDOUT 23-2: In the Field

1. Sample response: Several factors indicate that the girl should be convinced to accept treatment: She’s a minor; her psychiatrist directed the mother to call 911; she has a potentially hazardous condition. Medical direction should be contacted for instructions and/or orders. Depending upon local protocols, specific procedures will need to be followed if the girl refuses to cooperate. The police may also need to intervene. The patient should be made aware of all possible options, but she should also understand that the outcome will be the same—a trip to the hospital.

2. Sample response: Specifically, the girl might be told: “Your mother is worried about you, and we can set her mind at ease. Your doctor requested that you be checked out at the hospital.” Other communication techniques would be to allow the patient to voice her concerns about going to the hospital and to get her to make decisions as to how she will go with you. Patients who are allowed to voice their frustrations and who are allowed some measure of choice in the process are more likely to cooperate. Patients who are not allowed to voice their frustrations or given no choices at all in how they will be transported often feel threatened and trapped and are more likely to become violent.

HANDOUT 23-3: Chapter 23 Review
1. Behavior
2. Behavioral emergency
3. Medical; traumatic
4. Crisis management
5. Initial assessment
6. Physical contact; movements
7. Your own safety
8. 15; 24
9. Initial assessment
10. Positional asphyxia

HANDOUT 23-4: Listing Behavioral and psychiatric emergencies and suicide

1. Low blood sugar; Lack of oxygen; Inadequate blood to the brain or stroke; Head trauma;
   Mind-altering substances; Excessive cold; Excessive heat
2. Identify yourself and your role. Speak slowly and clearly. Listen to the patient. Do not be
general. Use positive body language. Acknowledge the patient’s feelings. Do not enter into the patient’s personal space. Be alert for changes in the patient’s emotional status.

HANDOUT 23-5: Behavioral and psychiatric emergencies and suicide True or False

CHAPTER 24

Hematologic and Renal Emergencies

HANDOUT 24-1: Evaluating Content Mastery  Student’s Name

EVALUATION

CHAPTER 24 QUIZ

Write the letter of the best answer in the space provided.

_____ 1. Blood cells that transport oxygen to the cells of the body are:
   A. blue.  C. red.
   B. purple.  D. white.

_____ 2. Blood cells that are critical in response to infection and mediate the body’s immune response are:
   A. red.  C. white.
   B. blue.  D. amber.

_____ 3. The part of blood responsible for clotting is:
   A. plasma.  C. platelets.
   B. WBCs.  D. RBCs.

_____ 4. The liquid part of blood is called:
   A. hemoglobin.  C. WBCs.
   B. RBCs.  D. plasma.
5. A disease caused by a genetic defect in a patient’s hemoglobin is called:
   A. sickle-cell anemia. C. anemia.  

6. Patients whose kidneys can no longer provide filtration and fluid balance have:
   A. acute renal failure. C. chronic renal failure.  
   B. end-stage renal disease. D. pyelonephritis.

7. Renal patients whose blood is filtered through a specialized machine are undergoing:
   A. hemodialysis. C. peritoneal dialysis.  
   B. transfusion. D. CAPD.

8. The vibration that can be felt by the EMT when a patient’s A-V fistula is gently palpated is called:
   A. thrill. C. woosh.  
   B. whirl. D. pulse.

9. The extreme pain felt by sickle-cell patients during a crisis results primarily from the sludging and accumulation of:
   A. white blood cells. C. red blood cells.  
   B. plasma. D. platelets.

10. End-stage renal patients who miss their dialysis treatments are at high risk for:
    A. acute COPD. C. acute bronchoconstriction.
B. cardiac arrest. D. cardiac tamponade.
A. You are dispatched at 1700 hours for a sick case. Upon arrival, you find a 68-year-old African-American female sitting in her lounge chair in the living room. The patient is complaining of feeling sick. Upon further questioning she tells you that she is having difficulty breathing. Her daughter states that she has chronic renal failure and hypertension and missed her dialysis appointment yesterday because it was raining. After performing the primary assessment, you obtain vital signs of blood pressure: 168/90, pulse: 120, respiratory rate: 28, and room oxygen saturation of 94 percent. Lung sounds are wet in the lower fields, and you notice her ankles and wrists are swollen. You observe a fistula (shunt) in the right wrist:

1. What pathophysiologic condition or conditions would explain the patient’s vital signs?

2. What specific precautions need to be taken when obtaining the vital signs?

3. How will you treat this patient?
CHAPTER 24 REVIEW

Write the word or words that best complete each sentence in the space provided.

1. A person who lacks a normal number of red blood cells is said to be ______________________________.

2. Patients with sickle-cell anemia have abnormal, sickle-shaped ________________________________
   ________________________________.

3. ________________________________ is described as the failure of the kidneys to filter the blood and remove toxins and excess fluids from the body.

4. ________________________________ is the liquid part of the blood that transports nutrients.

5. Patients with end-stage renal disease will require ________________________________.

6. The two primary types of dialysis are ________________________________ and
   ________________________________.

7. ESRF patients who miss a dialysis treatment may have symptoms very similar to
   ________________________________.

8. The most commonly transplanted organ is the ________________________________.

9. Renal patients in cardiac arrest may not respond to treatments with the ________________________________.

10. Sickle-cell patients are at higher risk of having the ________________________________ destroyed by the disease.
TRUE OR FALSE

1. White blood cells transport oxygen to the cells of the body.
2. Sickle-cell anemia is an inherited disease.
3. Patients with lower than normal red blood cell counts have anemia.
4. Patients with anemia often have sickle-cell crises.
5. Patients with end-stage renal failure do not require dialysis.
6. Patients experiencing a sickle-cell crisis do not experience severe pain.
7. End-stage renal patients often miss their dialysis appointments.
8. Sickle-cell anemia results in the destruction of the kidneys.
9. End-stage renal patients in cardiac arrest may not respond to shocks from an AED.
10. Blood pressures can be taken in the arm with a fistula.
HEMATOLOGIC AND RENAL EMERGENCIES LISTING

Complete the following lists.

1. List four components of blood.

2. List five complications from sickle-cell anemia.

3. List four signs and symptoms that patients who miss their dialysis treatment may exhibit.

4. List the four steps the EMT should take in treating a sickle-cell patient.
Chapter 24 Answer Key

HANDOUT 24-1: Chapter 24 Quiz

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

HANDOUT 24-2: In the Field

1. The patient has missed her dialysis treatment and as a result has a buildup of fluids, toxins, and electrolytes. The fluid is backing up into the lungs, as evidenced by wet lung sounds, and the excess fluid is causing the higher blood pressure. The fluid in the lungs is causing the shortness of breath and decreased oxygen saturation level. The body is trying to compensate for the lack of oxygen with the increased heart and respiratory rate.

2. The blood pressure should be taken on the arm without the fistula.

3. High-concentration oxygen by nonrebreather mask; position the patient seated upright in the stretcher or in the position of comfort; priority transport; reassessment; consider ALS intercept.
HANDOUT 24-3: Chapter Review

1. anemic
2. red blood cells
3. Renal failure
4. Plasma
5. dialysis
6. hemodialysis; peritoneal dialysis
7. congestive heart failure
8. kidney
9. automatic external defibrillator
10. spleen

HANDOUT 24-4: True or False

1. F
2. T
3. T
4. F
5. F
6. F
7. T
8. F
9. T
10. F

HANDOUT 24-5: Hematologic and Renal Emergencies Listing
1. Red blood cells; White blood cells; Plasma; Platelets

2. Destroyed spleen; Sickle-cell pain crisis; Acute chest syndrome; Priapism; Stroke

3. Shortness of breath or respiratory distress; Fluid accumulation in the lungs; Fluid accumulation throughout the body (hands and feet, etc.); Electrolyte imbalance

4. (1) Provide high-flow supplemental oxygen; (2) Monitor patients with acute chest syndrome for signs of inadequate respiration, and provide bag-valve mask ventilation as necessary; (3) Monitor patients with high fever for signs of hypoperfusion, and treat for shock as necessary; (4) Patients with acute stroke symptoms should be transported to a designated stroke center.