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Question: 1

Recipients of allogenic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) should be placed in rooms with how many air exchanges per hour?

- a. 3
- b. 5
- c. 10
- d. 12

Answer: D

Explanation:

Recipients of allogenic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation should be placed in rooms with at least 12 air exchanges per hour or point-of-service HEPA filtration that has 99.97% efficiency capable of removing particles at least 3 micrometers in size. Patients are especially at risk for infections caused by *Aspergillus*, so air quality should be monitored, although routine environmental sampling is not required. Aseptic technique should be meticulously maintained and visitors instructed in hand hygiene and standard precautions.

Question: 2

Because of the increased risk of infection with parenteral nutrition, the maximum infusion time for a parenteral lipid bag to run is:

- A. 6 hours.
- B. 12 hours.
- C. 18 hours.
- D. 24 hours.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Because of the increased risk of infection with parenteral nutrition, the maximum infusion time for a parenteral lipid bag to run is 12 hours because lipid emulsions pose the greatest risk of contamination with bacteria or fungi because they are alkaline and isosmotic. Amino acid/dextrose solutions (with or without lipids) should infuse no longer than 24 hours. Amino acid/ dextrose solutions can support fungal growth but are less likely to support bacterial growth than lipid emulsions or total nutrient admixtures.

Question: 3

The single most effective method of controlling hospital-acquired infections is:

- A. screening patients.
- B. isolating infected patients.
- C. handwashing.
- D. immunizing staff members.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The single most effective method of controlling hospital-acquired infections is following guidelines for handwashing with soap (antimicrobial or non-antimicrobial) and water or alcohol-based hand rub. This includes washing hands before and after patient contact, following correct procedures for handwashing, and instructing patients and visitors in the need for handwashing. Patients should be encouraged to remind staff members, including physicians, to wash their hands before caring for or touching the patients. Hands that are visibly dirty should always be washed with soap and water.

Question: 4

If a breastfeeding mother develops mastitis, the most likely cause is:

- A. infant colonized with *Staphylococcus aureus*.
- B. inadequate cleansing of breast.
- C. maternal flora invading nipple.
- D. contaminated breast pump.

Answer: A

Explanation:

If a breastfeeding mother develops mastitis, the most likely cause is that the infant is colonized with *Staphylococcus aureus*. About 50 percent of neonates become colonized with *Staphylococcus aureus* within a few days of birth, and these rates increase if hospitalization is prolonged or the infant is placed in a NICU. The child can become colonized from maternal transmission, but in most cases the transmission is from other sources, and the infant passes the infection into the breast while breastfeeding, resulting in mastitis.

Question: 5

A disabled patient has a service animal (a German Shepherd) and insists the dog be allowed to stay in the hospital room to assist the patient. The correct response in collaboration with risk management is to:

- A. make arrangements to accommodate the animal.
- B. inform the patient that the animal is not allowed in the hospital.
- C. provide alternative assistance for the patient.
- D. advise the patient's nurses to care for the animal as well as the patient.

Answer: B

Explanation:

If a disabled patient has a service animal and insists the animal be allowed to stay in the hospital room to assist the patient, the correct response in collaboration with risk management is to make arrangements to accommodate the animal because the law states that service animals are allowed in public places, and this includes health care facilities. Health care providers should have no direct contact with the animal; if the patient is not able to attend to the animal's needs for food, water, and elimination, then a person who can assist in these duties must be identified.

Question: 6

If hair removal is required for a surgical procedure, the BEST method is to:

- A. shave hair with razor immediately before incision.
- B. remove hair with a depilatory the night before surgery.
- C. remove hair with clippers the night before surgery.
- D. remove hair with clippers immediately before incision.

Answer: D

Explanation:

If hair removal is required for a surgical procedure, the best method is to remove the hair with clippers immediately before the incision because clippers cause the least trauma. Removing hair at the surgical site may not reduce SSIs and, in fact, may increase the risk of infection. Shaving should not be used because it often results in slight nicks and abrasions to the skin. Any hair removal should be done immediately before the incision and never the day before.

Question: 7

The infection prevention and control plan for an ambulatory surgery center (ASC) should be evaluated:

- I. annually.
- II. monthly.
- III. when risks change.
- IV. when staff members change.

- A. I and III only
- B. II and III only
- C. I, III, and IV only
- D. III and IV only

Answer: A

Explanation:

The infection prevention and control plan for an ambulatory surgery center (ASC) should be evaluated annually and when risks change in order to determine strengths, weaknesses, and barriers, and to carry out revision. The infection prevention and control plan should outline surveillance activities, processes for investigating outbreaks, methods of communicating findings to staff members, and mechanisms for reporting to other organizations, such as governmental agencies, health departments, and accrediting organizations. The governing body of the ASC should have an active role in evaluation of the plan.

Question: 8

When chairing a quality improvement committee that is reviewing processes and procedures to determine where problems exist, the BEST method to use to describe a process that is to be evaluated is:

- A. narrative explanation.
- B. flow chart.
- C. video.
- D. illustrations.

Answer: B

Explanation:

While there is some value in all of these approaches, the best method to describe a process to be evaluated is to use a flow chart because it can show each step in the process and how the step is related to other steps. The advantage over narrative and video presentations is that the committee members don't have to commit the process to memory or take notes in order to recall all steps in a process. It is difficult to illustrate every step in a process because of the number of illustrations required.

Question: 9

How long after exposure to hepatitis A virus (HAV) are immunoglobulin M antibodies to HAV (IgM anti-HAV) detectable in the blood?

- A. 48 hours.
- B. 7 days.
- C. 3 weeks.
- D. 1-10 weeks.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Immunoglobulin M (IgM) antibodies to HAV (IgM anti-HAV), which are used to diagnose hepatitis A, are detectable in the blood 3 weeks after exposure and at the onset of jaundice. The IgM anti-HAV titer begins to fall over a period of 4-6 weeks and is no longer detectable in the blood after 6-12 months. At onset of jaundice, IgG anti-HAV is also present and will continue to remain positive throughout the person's life, indicating immunity to HAV.

Question: 10

The COVID-19 pandemic was caused by what strain of coronavirus?

- A. MERS-CoV.
- B. 229E.
- C. C. SARS-CoV-2.
- D. SARS-CoV.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Coronaviruses effecting humans were first identified and studied during the 1960's. The COVID-19 pandemic was caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, named subsequent to the SARS-CoV virus, which was the causative agent of the SARS endemic of 2003. Both of these strains risk causing severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in those infected, particularly those that are already immunocompromised. The MERS-CoV virus is the causative agent in the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome, which first appeared in 2012 in Saudi Arabia. Coronavirus 229E is one of the more common strains of coronavirus, causing symptoms of the common cold.



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