

1. All of the following are considered normal functions of the kidney *except*:
  - A) regulating body hydration
  - B) elimination of nitrogenous wastes
  - C) regulating electrolyte balance
  - D) elimination of serum proteins
  
2. The approximate number of nephrons contained in each kidney is:
  - A) 100,000
  - B) 500,000
  - C) 1,000,000
  - D) 5,000,000
  
3. The order of blood flow through the nephron is:
  - A) afferent arteriole, peritubular capillaries, vasa recta, efferent arteriole
  - B) efferent arteriole, peritubular capillaries, vasa recta, afferent arteriole
  - C) peritubular capillaries, vasa recta, afferent arteriole, efferent arteriole
  - D) afferent arteriole, efferent arteriole, peritubular capillaries, vasa recta
  
4. The total renal blood flow is approximately:
  - A) 40 mL/min
  - B) 120 mL/min
  - C) 600 mL/min
  - D) 1200 mL/min
  
5. The total renal plasma flow is approximately:
  - A) 60 mL/min
  - B) 120 mL/min
  - C) 600 mL/min
  - D) 1200 mL/min
  
6. The glomerular filtrate is described as a:
  - A) plasma filtrate containing glucose and protein
  - B) protein-free ultrafiltrate of plasma
  - C) selective filtrate of plasma containing urea
  - D) plasma filtrate without glucose and protein
  
7. Increased production of aldosterone causes:
  - A) decreased plasma sodium levels
  - B) decreased glomerular blood pressure
  - C) increased plasma sodium levels
  - D) increased urine volume

8. The primary chemical affected by the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system is:
- A) glucose
  - B) potassium
  - C) chloride
  - D) sodium
9. The specific gravity of the glomerular ultrafiltrate is:
- A) 1.002
  - B) 1.010
  - C) 1.020
  - D) 1.030
10. All of the following are reabsorbed from the glomerular filtrate by active transport *except*:
- A) glucose
  - B) water
  - C) sodium
  - D) amino acids
11. For active transport to occur, a chemical:
- A) must combine with a carrier protein to create electrochemical energy
  - B) must be filtered through the proximal convoluted tubule
  - C) must be in higher concentration in the filtrate than in the blood
  - D) must be in higher concentration in the blood than in the filtrate
12. Water is passively reabsorbed in all parts of the nephron *except* the:
- A) proximal convoluted tubule
  - B) descending loop of Henle
  - C) ascending loop of Henle
  - D) collecting duct
13. Most of the sodium filtered by the glomerulus is reabsorbed in the:
- A) proximal convoluted tubule
  - B) descending loop of Henle
  - C) distal convoluted tubule
  - D) collecting duct
14. The enzyme renin is produced by the kidney:
- A) to activate antidiuretic hormone
  - B) in response to low plasma sodium levels
  - C) when too much sodium is being reabsorbed
  - D) to regulate secretion of hydrogen ions

15. Concentration of the tubular filtrate by the countercurrent mechanism is dependent on all of the following *except*:
- A) high salt concentration in the medulla
  - B) water-impermeable walls of the ascending loop of Henle
  - C) reabsorption of sodium and chloride from the ascending loop of Henle
  - D) active transport reabsorption of sodium and glucose in the proximal convoluted tubule
16. The osmotic gradient of the medulla:
- A) controls the permeability of the walls of the collecting duct
  - B) affects passive reabsorption of water in the descending loop of Henle
  - C) affects sodium reabsorption in the proximal convoluted tubule
  - D) controls ammonia production by the distal convoluted tubule
17. Aldosterone regulates sodium reabsorption in the:
- A) proximal convoluted tubule
  - B) descending loop of Henle
  - C) ascending loop of Henle
  - D) distal convoluted tubule
18. Decreased production of vasopressin:
- A) produces a low urine volume
  - B) produces a high urine volume
  - C) increases ammonia excretion
  - D) affects active transport of sodium
19. Production of antidiuretic hormone is controlled by the:
- A) osmotic gradient of the medulla
  - B) renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system
  - C) state of body hydration
  - D) cells of the renal cortex
20. Substances removed from the blood by tubular secretion include primarily:
- A) protein, hydrogen, and ammonia
  - B) protein, hydrogen, and potassium
  - C) amino acids, urea, and glucose
  - D) protein-bound substances, hydrogen, and potassium
21. Kidneys with impaired production of ammonia will consistently produce urine with a:
- A) high pH
  - B) high volume
  - C) low pH
  - D) low volume

22. To enhance the excretion of hydrogen ions, ammonia is produced by the cells of the:
- A) proximal convoluted tubule
  - B) loop of Henle
  - C) distal convoluted tubule
  - D) collecting duct
23. To maintain the buffering capacity of the blood, hydrogen ions combine with:
- A) filtered phosphate ions
  - B) filtered bicarbonate ions
  - C) secreted ammonia
  - D) secreted ammonium ions
24. Clearance tests used to determine the glomerular filtration rate must measure substances that are:
- A) not filtered by the glomerulus
  - B) completely reabsorbed by the proximal convoluted tubule
  - C) secreted in the distal convoluted tubule
  - D) neither reabsorbed or secreted by the tubules
25. Results for glomerular filtration tests are reported in:
- A) milliliters per minute
  - B) milliliters per 24 hours
  - C) milligrams per deciliter
  - D) milliequivalents per liter
26. All of the following are endogenous clearance test substances *except*:
- A) urea
  - B) creatinine
  - C) inulin
  - D) beta<sub>2</sub> microglobulin
27. Performing a clearance test using radionucleotides:
- A) eliminates the need to collect urine
  - B) does not require an infusion
  - C) provides visualization of the filtration
  - D) both A and C
28. If a substance is completely filtered by the glomerulus and then completely reabsorbed by the tubules, the clearance of that substance will be:
- A) falsely decreased
  - B) falsely increased
  - C) normal
  - D) zero

29. The most routinely used laboratory method for measuring the glomerular filtration rate is the:
- A) inulin clearance
  - B) urea clearance
  - C) creatinine clearance
  - D) beta<sub>2</sub> microglobulin clearance
30. The most common error in measuring the glomerular filtration rate using the creatinine clearance is:
- A) diurnal variations in creatinine production
  - B) inaccurate timing of urine collection
  - C) calculation errors
  - D) errors in the chemical analysis
31. All of the following could cause falsely decreased creatinine clearance results *except*:
- A) consumption of a heavy meat during urine collection
  - B) noncreatinine plasma substances reacting in the chemical test
  - C) secretion of creatinine by the tubules
  - D) maintaining urine specimens at room temperature
32. The body surface of the average person in square meters is:
- A) 0.60
  - B) 1.73
  - C) 2.10
  - D) 3.50
33. An additional calculation that may be required in the creatinine clearance is a correction for:
- A) body size
  - B) age
  - C) fasting status
  - D) basal metabolism rate
34. Calculate the creatinine clearance for a patient of average size from the following data:  
Urine volume: 720 mL for 12 hours  
Urine creatinine: 120 mg/dL  
Serum creatinine: 1.5 mg/dL
- A) 60 mL/min
  - B) 80 mL/min
  - C) 100 mL/min
  - D) 120 mL/min
35. Performing a creatinine clearance is helpful for determining:
- A) renal concentrating ability
  - B) the feasibility of administering medications
  - C) early renal disease
  - D) renal blood flow

36. John White donates one of his two healthy kidneys to his twin brother. His glomerular filtration rate can be expected to:
- A) decrease by 50%
  - B) increase by 50%
  - C) decrease gradually over 1 year
  - D) remain within a normal range
37. The renal function that is most frequently the first affected by early renal disease is:
- A) renal blood flow
  - B) glomerular filtration
  - C) tubular reabsorption
  - D) tubular secretion
38. For accurate evaluation of renal tubular concentrating ability, patient preparation should include:
- A) fasting
  - B) fluid deprivation
  - C) increased hydration
  - D) abstaining from all medications
39. Measurement of urine osmolarity is a more accurate measure of renal concentrating ability than specific gravity because:
- A) osmolarity is measured by instrumentation
  - B) specific gravity is not influenced by urea and glucose molecules
  - C) osmolarity is influenced equally by small and large molecules
  - D) specific gravity measures only urea and glucose molecules
40. Solute dissolved in solvent will:
- A) decrease the boiling point
  - B) decrease the freezing point
  - C) raise the vapor pressure
  - D) raise the dew point
41. Vapor pressure osmometers are based on the principle that:
- A) increased solute raises the vapor pressure of a solution
  - B) increased solute lowers the vapor pressure of a solution
  - C) increased solute raises the dew point of a solution
  - D) A and C, but not B, are correct
42. Clinical osmometers use NaCl as a reference solution because:
- A) 1 g molecular weight of NaCl will lower the freezing point  $1.86^{\circ}\text{C}$
  - B) NaCl is readily frozen and vaporized
  - C) NaCl is partially ionized similar to the composition of urine
  - D) 1 g equivalent weight of NaCl will lower the freezing point  $1.86^{\circ}\text{C}$

43. Substances that can interfere with serum osmolarity readings include all of the following *except*:
- A) lipids
  - B) lactic acid
  - C) ethanol
  - D) sodium
44. The results of a serum osmolarity performed by both freezing-point and vapor-pressure osmometry do not agree. A possible cause of this discrepancy would be:
- A) increased ethanol
  - B) increased lipids
  - C) decreased lactic acid
  - D) decreased potassium
45. A technical error that could cause a discrepancy between freezing-point and vapor-pressure osmometry readings is:
- A) failure to refrigerate the sample
  - B) evaporation of the sample
  - C) failure to separate cells and serum
  - D) fluid deprivation of the patient
46. The normal serum osmolarity is:
- A) 50 to 100 mOsm
  - B) 275 to 300 mOsm
  - C) 400 to 500 mOsm
  - D) Three times urine osmolarity
47. The extent to which the kidney concentrates the glomerular filtrate can be determined by measuring:
- A) serum creatinine
  - B) urine creatinine
  - C) serum osmolarity
  - D) urine and serum osmolarity
48. Following fluid deprivation, a patient has a serum osmolarity of 276 mOsm and a urine osmolarity of 1000 mOsm. This patient:
- A) has normal concentration ability
  - B) may have defective ADH production
  - C) may have insufficient tubular ADH response
  - D) has a high serum lipid concentration

49. The test that provides information similar to specific gravity is the:
- A) total colloid content
  - B) protein concentration
  - C) absorbance
  - D) osmolarity
50. The serum osmolarity of a patient with hyponatremia:
- A) will be similar to the urine osmolarity
  - B) should be greater than 300 mOsm
  - C) should be lower than 275 mOsm
  - D) will be falsely increased
51. Following injection of ADH, a patient has a serum osmolarity of 290 mOsm and a urine osmolarity of 450 mOsm. The patient:
- A) continued to observe water deprivation
  - B) lacks tubular response to ADH
  - C) may have ingested excess alcohol
  - D) should be evaluated with a creatinine clearance
52. To determine the amount of water that must be cleared to produce urine with the same osmolarity as the ultrafiltrate, one should perform:
- A) a free water clearance
  - B) a Mosenthal test
  - C) an osmolar clearance
  - D) a urine-to-plasma ratio
53. To determine the ability of the kidneys to respond to filtrate osmolarity, one should perform a:
- A) free water clearance
  - B) Fishberg test
  - C) urine-to-plasma osmolarity
  - D) PAH test
54. A free water clearance of -2.5 could be indicative of:
- A) lack of renal concentration and dilution
  - B) decreased ADH production
  - C) hyponatremia
  - D) dehydration
55. A patient with insufficient production of ADH would have which of the following results?
- A) Urine volume—2 mL/min; osmolar clearance—2 mL/min
  - B) Urine volume—5 mL/min; osmolar clearance—2 mL/min
  - C) Urine volume—3 mL/min; osmolar clearance—4 mL/min
  - D) Urine volume—1 mL/min; osmolar clearance—3 mL/min



56. The PAH test is used to measure:
- A) glomerular filtration
  - B) tubular reabsorption
  - C) albumin excretion
  - D) renal blood flow
57. To provide an accurate measure of renal blood flow, a test substance should be:
- A) filtered by the glomerulus
  - B) reabsorbed by the tubules
  - C) secreted by the distal convoluted tubule
  - D) cleared on each contact with functional renal tissues
58. PAH is secreted by the:
- A) proximal convoluted tubule
  - B) descending loop of Henle
  - C) distal convoluted tubule
  - D) collecting duct
59. A PAH test result showing a renal plasma flow of 400 mL/min:
- A) is a normal result
  - B) may be falsely decreased from impaired tubular secretion
  - C) should be corrected to correspond to the patient's body size
  - D) indicates glomerular filtration of PAH
60. Which of the following is *not* associated with the elimination of hydrogen ions?
- A) Protein
  - B) Phosphate
  - C) Ammonia
  - D) Bicarbonate
61. Renal tubular acidosis can be caused by the:
- A) production of excessively acidic urine due to increased filtration of hydrogen ions
  - B) production of excessively acidic urine due to increased secretion of hydrogen ions
  - C) inability to produce an acid urine due to impaired production of ammonia
  - D) inability to produce an acid urine due to increased production of ammonia
62. Tests to measure the tubular secretion of hydrogen ions include all of the following *except*:
- A) pH
  - B) titratable acidity
  - C) urinary bicarbonate
  - D) urinary ammonia

63. Following administration of oral ammonium chloride, a patient with renal tubular acidosis will produce:
- A) highly concentrated urine
  - B) urine with a low pH
  - C) urine with a high pH
  - D) very dilute urine
64. Total acidity of a urine specimen is a combination of:
- A) titratable acidity and pH
  - B) titratable acidity and ammonium ion
  - C) pH and total acidity
  - D) total acidity and ammonium ion
65. The afferent and efferent arterioles have the ability to vary in size.
- A) True
  - B) False
66. Blood pressure within the glomerulus varies directly with systemic blood pressure.
- A) True
  - B) False
67. A decrease in plasma sodium produces an increase in blood volume.
- A) True
  - B) False
68. The filtrate leaving the ascending loop of Henle is highly concentrated.
- A) True
  - B) False
69. A substance that is not filtered by the glomerulus will not be found in the urine.
- A) True
  - B) False
70. Hydrogen ions are filtered by the glomerulus and reabsorbed and secreted by the renal tubules.
- A) True
  - B) False
71. An increase in the plasma level of beta<sub>2</sub> microglobulin correlates with decreased glomerular filtration.
- A) True
  - B) False

72. To calculate a creatinine clearance using the Gault formula, the patient must collect at least a 2-hour urine specimen.
- A) True
  - B) False
73. The nephrons with the longest loops of Henle are the cortical nephrons.
- A) True
  - B) False
74. Which of the following clearance substances does *not* require urine collection?
- A) Creatinine
  - B) Cystatin C
  - C) Inulin
  - D) All of the above
75. A 12-hour urine specimen with a volume of 360 mL is collected for a creatinine clearance. What is the volume (V) used to calculate the clearance?
- A) 0.5 mL/min
  - B) 1.0 mL/min
  - C) 1.5 mL/min
  - D) 2.0 mL/min
76. Using the following values, calculate the creatinine clearance: urine volume—1200 mL/12h, urine creatinine—60 mg/dL, and serum creatinine—0.8 mg/dL
- A) 60 mL/min
  - B) 75mL/min
  - C) 112 mL/min
  - D) 128 mL/min
77. Can a patient with the following results be given a nephrotoxic medication: urine volume—720 mL/24 h, urine creatinine—100 mg/dL, and serum creatinine—2.5 mg/dL?
- A) No, clearance is 20 mL/min
  - B) No, clearance is 40 mL/min
  - C) Yes, clearance is 80 mL/min
  - D) Yes, clearance is 120 mL/min
78. Given the following information, calculate the osmolar clearance: urine volume—720 mL in 24 hours, urine osmolarity—700 mOsm, and plasma osmolarity—300 mOsm.
- A) 1.0 mL/min
  - B) 1.2 mL/min
  - C) 1.8 mL/min
  - D) 2.0 mL/min

79. Given the following information, calculate the patient's free water clearance: urine volume—360 mL in 12 hours, urine osmolarity—1400 mOsm, and plasma osmolarity—275 mOsm.
- A) +0.5 mL/min
  - B) -1.5 mL/min
  - C) -1.0 mL/min
  - D) -2.0 mL/min
80. Following a 2-hour infusion of *p*-aminohippuric acid, during which 200 mL of urine is collected, the urine PAH is 260 mg/dL, and the patient's plasma PAH is 0.8 mg/dL. Calculate the renal plasma volume.
- A) 525 mL/min
  - B) 553 mL/min
  - C) 614 mL/min
  - D) 765 mL/min
81. Can a 40-year-old male weighing 72 kg with a serum creatinine of 0.9 mg/dL be given a nephrotoxic medication?
- A) No, clearance is 67 mL/min
  - B) No, clearance is 86 mL/min
  - C) Yes, clearance is 111 mL/min
  - D) Yes, clearance is 121 mL/min
82. What is the physical property measured by a vapor pressure osmometer?
- A) Vapor temperature
  - B) Dew point temperature
  - C) Osmotic pressure
  - D) Oncotic pressure

Use the following to answer questions 83-88:

A patient showing symptoms of impaired renal function has a battery of tests performed. Results are:

Serum creatinine: 2.0 mg/dL  
Urine creatinine: 150 mg/dL  
Serum osmolarity: 270 mOsm  
Urine osmolarity: 100 mOsm  
24-hour urine volume: 2000 mL

83. Calculate the creatinine clearance.
- A) 50 mL/min
  - B) 85 mL/min
  - C) 105 mL/min
  - D) 110 mL/min

84. Calculate the osmolar clearance.
- A) 0.5
  - B) 1.0
  - C) 2.0
  - D) 2.5
85. Calculate the free water clearance.
- A) -0.5
  - B) -1.0
  - C) +0.6
  - D) +0.9
86. Which renal function is abnormal in this patient?
- A) Glomerular filtration
  - B) Tubular reabsorption
  - C) Tubular secretion
  - D) Renal blood flow
87. Can this patient be safely given a nephrotoxic antibiotic?
- A) Yes
  - B) No
88. Would increasing the patients' intake of fluids alleviate this problem?
- A) Yes
  - B) No

Use the following to answer questions 89-92:

A laboratory supervisor is authorized to purchase a new osmometer. The supervisor must decide between a freezing-point and a vapor-pressure model.

89. If this is a pediatric hospital, which model is better?
- A) Freezing-point
  - B) Vapor-pressure
90. Which model is more likely to be affected by technical errors?
- A) Freezing-point
  - B) Vapor-pressure
91. Which model is affected by lipemic serum but *not* elevated ethanol levels?
- A) Freezing-point
  - B) Vapor-pressure

92. What substance is used as a reference standard in both models?
- A) KCl
  - B) Distilled water
  - C) NaCl
  - D) Deionized water

Use the following to answer questions 93-95:

A physician is treating a patient exhibiting symptoms of impaired renal function following a massive hemorrhage. The physician orders a serum sodium and a PAH clearance test. The patient has a serum PAH of 1.0 mg/dL, urine PAH of 200 mg/dL, and a urine volume of 240 mL in 2 hours. The serum sodium is decreased.

93. Based on the tests ordered, what renal function is the physician's primary concern?
- A) Glomerular filtration
  - B) Tubular reabsorption
  - C) Tubular secretion
  - D) Renal blood flow
94. Calculate the patient's renal blood flow.
- A) 100 mL/min
  - B) 200 mL/min
  - C) 300 mL/min
  - D) 400 mL/min
95. Would it be better for this patient to have an increased or decreased serum renin level?
- A) Increased
  - B) Decreased

**Answer Key**

1. D
2. C
3. D
4. D
5. C
6. B
7. C
8. D
9. B
10. B
11. A
12. C
13. A
14. B
15. D
16. C
17. D
18. B
19. C
20. D
21. A
22. C
23. B
24. D
25. A
26. C
27. D
28. D
29. C
30. B
31. C
32. B
33. A
34. B
35. B
36. D
37. C
38. B
39. C
40. B
41. B
42. C
43. D
44. A

- 45. B
- 46. B
- 47. D
- 48. A
- 49. D
- 50. C
- 51. B
- 52. C
- 53. A
- 54. D
- 55. B
- 56. D
- 57. D
- 58. A
- 59. B
- 60. A
- 61. C
- 62. C
- 63. C
- 64. B
- 65. A
- 66. B
- 67. B
- 68. B
- 69. B
- 70. A
- 71. A
- 72. B
- 73. B
- 74. B
- 75. A
- 76. D
- 77. A
- 78. B
- 79. D
- 80. B
- 81. C
- 82. B
- 83. C
- 84. A
- 85. D
- 86. B
- 87. A
- 88. B
- 89. B
- 90. B



- 91. A
- 92. C
- 93. D
- 94. D
- 95. A