

Chapter 2—Assessing Family Processes and Parenting Issues

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. The definition of a nuclear family is a:
 - a. single parent with child
 - b. married man and woman with children
 - c. grandparents with one grandchild
 - d. two individuals of same sex

ANS: B

The definition of a nuclear family is a married man and woman with children.

PTS: 1

DIF: Comprehension

REF: White (2013)

2. The most common reason for three generations of a family to reside in one house is:
 - a. because of cultural traditions
 - b. because some members require assistance
 - c. that they have the same belief system
 - d. that they prefer the same type of food

ANS: B

Intergenerational or multigenerational families are families where more than two related generations live together functioning as a family. The most common reason for three generations to reside in one house is that some of the family members require some type of assistance.

PTS: 1

DIF: Comprehension

REF: White (2013)

3. A Native American client has been flown to your hospital for a higher level of care. Some decisions will need to be made regarding the pending surgery for this client. What cultural information about the Native American family might be helpful to know?
 - a. It is based on a matriarchal society.
 - b. All family members have equal power.
 - c. It is based on a patriarchal society.
 - d. It is based on a child centered society.

ANS: A

Many Native American cultures are based on a matriarchal society. The extended family is important in Native American families and is often involved in health care decisions. The family may wait for the family's eldest female to arrive before a major medical decision is made.

PTS: 1

DIF: Comprehension

REF: White (2013)

4. An Amish client has been admitted to your unit with a fractured femur after a farming accident. What can the nurse expect based upon the Amish culture?
 - a. The client will defer decisions to females.
 - b. The client will refuse medical treatment.
 - c. The client will refuse blood transfusions.
 - d. A large group may stand vigil at hospital.

ANS: D

The Amish community is very closely knit. Families are larger and it is common for families to receive significant support from extended family members. Many are uninsured farmers so a medical condition requiring hospitalization is viewed as an entire community crisis to address. If hospitalized, a large group of family members may stand vigil at the hospital to offer support to the client and family of the client.

PTS: 1 DIF: Application REF: White (2013)

5. Knowing that health promotion and wellness are an important component of client education, what condition, primarily seen in adults but now seen in children, would you educate parents about?
- a. high cholesterol
 - b. Type II diabetes
 - c. high blood pressure
 - d. lung disease

ANS: B

The nurse can encourage, educate and support families on their quest for good health. Younger and younger individuals are developing Type II diabetes, which was in the past considered primarily a condition only seen in middle-aged or older adults.

PTS: 1 DIF: Comprehension REF: White (2013)

6. Which of the following is important to remember when caring for clients of different cultures?
- a. All people want to be treated in the same manner.
 - b. Cultural differences are most noticeable between eastern and western cultures.
 - c. Broad assumptions can be made about a particular culture.
 - d. All individuals want to be treated with special attention to individual needs.

ANS: D

Nurses lose a sense of caring when they approach all clients in the same manner and ignore individual preferences. It is important to note that we all want to be treated with special attention to our individual needs.

PTS: 1 DIF: Comprehension REF: White (2013)

7. A mother is talking with the nurse during a well child examination. She describes growing up in a family where there was a clear division of who is in control and who must obey. She also described her family as one where the parents set the rules with consequences and rewards. This type of parenting is called:
- a. permissive
 - b. authoritative
 - c. authoritarian
 - d. democratic

ANS: C

In the authoritarian style of parenting, there is a clear division of who is in control and who must obey. Parents set the rules and distribute consequences and rewards dependant upon the adherence to the parent's rules and guidelines. Authoritarian parents generally do not feel the need to explain their expectations but rather teach the children that the parent is the person in charge in the family and the decision maker.

PTS: 1 DIF: Comprehension REF: White (2013)

8. A parenting style that can be described as "hands off", with minimal rules and a high value on individual freedom is called:
- a. democratic
 - b. permissive
 - c. authoritative
 - d. authoritarian

ANS: B

Permissive parenting can be described as a “hands off” approach to parenting. The parent tends to place a high value on individual freedom and the concept of learning from one’s own mistakes. Rules are minimal and often not consistently enforced. Parents do not take an active role in shaping the child’s behavior. Some children raised with this style of parenting may struggle with recognizing boundaries or limits.

PTS: 1

DIF: Comprehension

REF: White (2013)

9. While working at a blood pressure clinic, a nurse checked a client’s BP. The client’s five year old daughter asked to have her blood pressure checked also. She extended her arm and the nurse noticed numerous bruises on her arm. When the nurse asked the little girl about the bruises, the mother had a very angry response and snapped back at the nurse “It’s NONE of your business!” The nurse suspects child abuse; what action should she take next?
- Ignore her concerns since it’s not her business.
 - Offer client a phone # for a parenting support group.
 - Report her concerns to her supervisor.
 - Tell another RN that she saw bruises on the little girl.

ANS: C

It is very important to note that all 50 states have some type of mandatory abuse and neglect laws. The most recent amendment of this law is titled the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Act Amendments (CAPAT). While all states require certain institution and professions to report child abuse, many states have broadened statutes to require any person with knowledge of possible abuse to report it.

PTS: 1

DIF: Application REF: White (2013)

10. Providing support for a client’s family is an important component of care of the actual client. What feeling, often irrational, often accompanies the myriad of feelings associated with a loved one struggling with cancer?
- sadness
 - guilt
 - pessimism
 - hopelessness

ANS: B

The nurse can offer suggestions to the family member on how to support a loved one with cancer. Guilt, however irrational, often accompanies the myriad of feelings associated when a loved one struggles with cancer. Guilty feelings from being healthy when a loved one is sick or feeling guilty that they could not prevent a loved one from experiencing cancer may occur. Counseling for family members may be useful.

PTS: 1

DIF: Comprehension

REF: White (2013)

11. A nurse working in a pediatrician’s office is interviewing a mother and a child prior to the physician examination. The mother is complaining about the behavior of her child, constant temper tantrums, and the strain it is having on her and her marriage. Which of the following is the BEST response?
- “Certainly you are not using any type of discipline system!”
 - “Something that you are doing is creating this situation with your child.”
 - “I can relate, I have the same problems at home and believe me, it doesn’t get better!”
 - “Parenting can be very stressful at times; would you like the phone number of a great local parenting support group?”

ANS: D

Parents of a child with a difficult temperament need support and suggestions for managing their child rather than blame. It is important that the nurse assess the temperament and interactions between the parent and child. The nurse is often in a unique position to be aware of resources that are helpful to both parents and children.

PTS: 1 DIF: Application REF: White (2013)

12. What fraction of children living in the United States will live in a step family by the time they reach 18 years old?
- a. 1/4
 - b. 1/3
 - c. 1/2
 - d. 3/4

ANS: B

Approximately one third of children living in the United States will live in a step family by the time they reach 18 years old. While blended families can and do function as well as many nuclear families, there can be more challenges and counseling may be beneficial.

PTS: 1 DIF: Comprehension REF: White (2013)

13. Which one of the following is a characteristic seen in a healthy functioning family?
- a. Displays of warmth and affection toward each other is infrequent.
 - b. Clear roles exist yet flexibility and adaptability is not encouraged.
 - c. Each member has to earn value and respect.
 - d. There is good communication between members.

ANS: D

Characteristics often seen in healthy functioning families include: displays of warmth and affection towards each other is common, clear roles exist yet flexibility and adaptability to change is present, each member is valued and respected, basic physiological, psychosocial, and spiritual needs are addressed, there is good communication between members, and anger is successfully managed without members verbally or physically attacking each other.

PTS: 1 DIF: Comprehension REF: White (2013)

14. Family crises are challenging and require that family members pull together. Which of the following is a healthy coping mechanism for a family attempting to manage a crisis?
- a. Keep their concerns to themselves.
 - b. Call the police.
 - c. Include the children in discussion.
 - d. Reach out for help.

ANS: D

Assistance outside the family unit may be needed when a crisis develops. Reaching out for help beyond the family is a very healthy coping mechanism when members are overwhelmed in attempting to manage a crisis. Nurses are in a unique position to refer a family to the appropriate agencies that may offer guidance and assistance.

PTS: 1 DIF: Comprehension REF: White (2013)

15. A nurse has been asked to speak at a local church about domestic violence. The nurse should tell the attendees which one of the following accompanies domestic violence?
- a. verbal abuse
 - b. emotional abuse
 - c. physical illness
 - d. verbal and emotional abuse

ANS: D

Domestic violence occurs at the lowest end of distressed family functioning. In this situation, one or more members actually physically lash out at one another. Verbal and emotional abuse frequently accompanies domestic violence.

PTS: 1

DIF: Comprehension

REF: White (2013)

16. Approximately what percentage of pregnancies in women from ages 18-19 are unplanned?
- a. 10%
 - b. 25%
 - c. 50%
 - d. 70%

ANS: C

Teen pregnancy is on the decrease, but the United States still has the highest teen birth rate of any western industrialized country. More than one half of pregnancies in women from ages 18-19 are unplanned.

PTS: 1

DIF: Comprehension

REF: White (2013)

17. A physician has just informed a client and her husband of the client's colon cancer. What can be an initial feeling about a client's diagnosis?
- a. shock
 - b. remorse
 - c. denial
 - d. anger

ANS: C

A diagnosis of cancer in one family member has a far-reaching impact on all the members. Cancer may be openly discussed and approached as a battle for the entire family. A family member may initially be in denial about the diagnosis because to face potentially losing someone so loved is too painful.

PTS: 1

DIF: Application REF: White (2013)

18. A postpartum nurse is getting shift report from the night nurse. One of the clients the nurse will be caring for had a baby with Down's Syndrome late last night. Which of the following emotions would the nurse expect the client to be experiencing on her morning rounds?
- a. denial
 - b. anger
 - c. shock
 - d. sadness

ANS: C

Parents of a first child with a recessive genetic disorder experience shock at the time of diagnosis. For many individuals it is difficult to fathom one can carry a gene causing a genetic defect, but themselves be unaffected by the condition.

PTS: 1

DIF: Comprehension

REF: White (2013)

MULTIPLE RESPONSE

1. Which of the following are reasons for the decrease in the number of nuclear family households? (Select all that apply.)
- a. Many women are not marrying, yet are having children.
 - b. More couples are choosing to have greater than 2 children.
 - c. Many married couples are delaying starting a family.
 - d. There is an increase in the influx of immigrants that include extended families.
 - e. Men and women are marrying at earlier ages.
 - f. There are increasing numbers of couples co-habiting but not marrying.

ANS: A, C, D, F

The decrease in the number of nuclear family households is most likely due to a number of changing trends. These include: many women are not marrying, yet still having children, more couples are choosing to remain childless, and many married couples are delaying starting a family. Also, there are increasing numbers of couples co-habiting but not marrying, an increase in family households that include biologically unrelated individuals, men and women are marrying at later ages, and lastly, there is an increased influx of immigrants that include extended families.

PTS: 1

DIF: Comprehension

REF: White (2013)

2. A family of four has been admitted with smoke inhalation and minor injuries after a serious house fire. This family will most likely experience some distress in recovering from this event. The nurse knows which of the following to be characteristics more common in distressed families? (Select all that may apply.)
- Basic needs may be neglected.
 - There is poor communication between family members.
 - Family roles are clearly defined.
 - Family experiences financial instability.
 - Anger control issues are present in one or more members.
 - Substance abuse is present in one or more members.

ANS: A, B, D, E, F

Characteristics more common in distressed families include: basic needs may be neglected, poor communication between members, (including dishonesty, hostility, sarcasm, silent treatment, and frequent misunderstandings), substance abuse issues in one or more members, financial instability, family members are not all treated with equal respect or equal value, anger control issues are present in one or more members, there are power struggles and poorly defined roles and unrealistic expectations of family members.

PTS: 1

DIF: Application REF: White (2013)