

ATI Cardiovascular Targeted Exam Questions with Answers and Detailed Rationales

A nurse is providing discharge teaching for a client who has a prescription for the transdermal nitroglycerin patch. Which of the following instructions should the nurse include in the teaching?

- Apply the new patch to the same site as the previous patch
- Place the patch on an area of skin away from skin folds and joints
- Keep the patch on 24 hr per day
- Replace the patch at the onset of angina - **Correct ANS:** Place the patch on an area of skin away from skin folds and joints

A nurse in an emergency room is assessing a client who has a brady dysrhythmia. Which of the following findings should the nurse monitor for?

- Confusion
- Friction rub
- Hypertension
- Dry skin - **Correct ANS:** Confusion

Brady dysrhythmia can cause decreased systemic perfusion, which can lead to confusion.

A nurse is admitting a client who has a leg ulcer and a history of diabetes mellitus. The nurse should use which of the following focused assessments to help differentiate between an arterial ulcer and a venous stasis ulcer?

- Explore the client's family history of peripheral vascular disease
- Note the presence or absence of pain at the ulcer site
- Inquire about the presence or absence of claudication
- Ask if the client has had a recent infection - **Correct ANS:** Inquire about the presence or absence of claudication

Clients who have arterial ulcers experience claudication, but those who have venous ulcers do not.

A nurse is providing teaching for a client who is 2 days postoperative following a heart transplant. Which of the following statements should the nurse include in the teaching?

- "You might no longer be able to feel chest pain."
- "Your level of activity intolerance will not change."
- "After 6 months, you will no longer need to restrict your sodium intake."
- "You will be able to stop taking immunosuppressants after 12 months."
- **Correct ANS:** "You might no longer be able to feel chest pain."

Heart transplant clients usually are no longer able to feel chest pain due to the denervation of the heart.

A nurse is caring for a client who was admitted for treatment of left-sided heart failure with intravenous loop diuretics and digitalis therapy. The client is experiencing weakness and an irregular heart rate. Which of the following actions should the nurse take first?

- Obtain client's current weight
- Review serum electrolyte values
- Determine the time of the last digoxin dose

-Check the client's urine output - **Correct ANS:** Review serum electrolyte values.

Weakness and irregular heart rate indicate that the client is at the greatest risk for electrolyte imbalance, an adverse effect of loop diuretics. The first action the nurse should take is to review the client's electrolyte values, particularly the potassium level, because the client is at risk for dysrhythmias from hypokalemia.

A nurse is assessing a client who has left-sided heart failure. Which of the following manifestations should the nurse expect to find?

-Increased abdominal girth

-Weak peripheral pulses

-Jugular venous neck distention

-Dependent edema - **Correct ANS:** Weak peripheral pulses.

Weak peripheral pulses are related to decreased cardiac output resulting from left-sided heart failure.

A nurse is assessing a client who has a history of deep-vein thrombosis and is receiving warfarin. The nurse should identify that which of the following findings indicates the medication is effective?

- Hemoglobin 14 g/dL
- Minimal bruising of extremities
- Decreased blood pressure
- INR 2.0 - **Correct ANS: INR 2.0**

The nurse should identify that an INR of 2.0 is within the desired reference range of 2.0 to 3.0 for a client who has a deep-vein thrombosis and is receiving warfarin to reduce the risk of new clot formation and a stroke.

A nurse is preparing a client for coronary angiography. The nurse should report which of the following findings to the provider prior to the procedure?

- Hemoglobin 14.4 g/dL
- History of peripheral arterial disease