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**Exam** : **PTC-AMCA**

**Title** : AMCA Phlebotomy  
Technician Certification  
Exam

**Vendor** : Medical Technology

**Version** : DEMO

**QUESTION NO: 1**

Transfer of an infectious agent via droplets larger than 5 gm in diameter is known as:

- A. Airborne transmission
- B. Droplet transmission
- C. Vector transmission
- D. Vehicle transmission

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

Droplet transmission involves transfer of an infectious agent via droplets larger than 5 gm in diameter, whereas airborne transmission involves dispersal of infectious evaporated droplet nuclei less than 5 gm in diameter. In vector transmission, infectious agents are carried by insects, arthropods, or animals. In vehicle transmission, infectious agents are transmitted through contaminated food, water, or drugs.

**QUESTION NO: 2**

Which of the following is an example of vector transmission?

- A. Tuberculosis
- B. Salmonella infection
- C. Bubonic plague
- D. HIV

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

The transmission of bubonic plague by fleas from rodents is an example of vector transmission. Tuberculosis is spread via airborne transmission. Transmission of salmonella through handling contaminated food and transmission of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection via a blood transfusion are examples of vehicle transmission.

**QUESTION NO: 3**

Which of the following is NOT a cause of vein collapse?

- A. Vacuum draw of the tube
- B. Tourniquet too close to the venipuncture site
- C. Stoppage of blood flow on tourniquet removal
- D. Frequent venipunctures

**Answer: C**

**QUESTION NO: 4**

In which of the following patients is blood collection prohibited?

- A. Patient with a hematoma in the antecubital area of each arm
- B. Pregnant patient
- C. Mastectomy patient
- D. Patient with full sleeve tattoos

**Answer: A**

**QUESTION NO: 5**

Droplet transmission may result from:

- A. Mosquito bites
- B. Kissing
- C. Contaminated food or water
- D. Throat swab collection

**Answer:** D

Explanation:

Droplet transmission may result from transfer of an infectious agent by coughing, sneezing, or talking, or through procedures such as throat swab collection. Vector transmission may result from mosquito or flea bites. Vehicle transmission is the transfer of an infectious agent through contaminated food or water. Transfer of an infectious agent through kissing or touching is known as direct contact transmission.

#### **QUESTION NO: 6**

All of the following are prohibited under Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines for hand hygiene in healthcare settings EXCEPT:

- A. Handwashing using plain soap and water
- B. Artificial nails
- C. Nails longer than one-quarter inch
- D. Touching faucet handles after handwashing

**Answer:** A

Explanation:

In healthcare settings, routine handwashing using plain soap and water is required to prevent spread of infection; alcohol-based antiseptic hand cleaners may also be used. Artificial nails or nails longer than one-quarter inch are prohibited. After handwashing, a clean paper towel should be used to turn off the faucet to prevent contamination.

#### **QUESTION NO: 7**

Protective isolation may be required for all of the following patients EXCEPT:

- A. Neutropenic chemotherapy patients
- B. Burn patients
- C. Infants
- D. AIDS patients

**Answer:** C

Explanation:

Protective isolation, or reverse isolation, may be required for patients who are highly susceptible to infection, such as burn patients, patients with AIDS, or chemotherapy patients with a low neutrophil count. Protective isolation is usually not required for infants.

#### **QUESTION NO: 8**

Which of the following statements regarding standard precautions for infection control is FALSE?

- A. Use both hands to recap needles.
- B. Hands should be washed before putting on and after removing gloves.

- C. Standard precautions apply to all secretions except sweat.
- D. Resuscitation devices may be used as an alternative to the mouth-to-mouth method.

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

Never use both hands, or even one hand, to recap a needle. If a needle must be recapped, the cap should be placed in a cap-holding device or on a solid surface and the needle slid into it. Hands should be washed both before putting on and after removing gloves. Standard precautions should be followed for all body fluids except sweat. Resuscitation devices may be used as an alternative to mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

#### **QUESTION NO: 9**

The phlebotomist is NOT required to use an N95 (or equivalent) respirator when entering the room of a patient with which of the following communicable diseases, even when the phlebotomist is not immune to the disease?

- A. Chickenpox
- B. Measles
- C. Influenza
- D. COVID-19

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

An N95 or equivalent respirator must be worn by all healthcare personnel entering the room of a patient known or suspected to have a disease that is spread through airborne transmission if the healthcare worker is not immune to the disease. These diseases include chickenpox, measles, COVID-19, and tuberculosis. Many healthcare facilities require the use of N95 or equivalent respirators by all personnel who may be exposed to these diseases even if they are immune due to vaccination or previous infection. However, for diseases that are spread through droplet transmission, such as influenza and the common cold, a surgical mask provides adequate protection.

#### **QUESTION NO: 10**

Which of the following is NOT a violation of general laboratory safety rules?

- A. Wearing a laboratory coat when leaving the lab
- B. Wearing nail polish
- C. Wearing large earrings
- D. Having shoulder-length hair

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

Shoulder-length or longer hair is acceptable in the laboratory if it is tied back. Wearing nail polish or large or dangling earrings is not acceptable. A laboratory coat should never be worn when leaving the lab for any reason.

#### **QUESTION NO: 11**

Which of the following statements regarding HBV is FALSE?

- A. The HBV vaccine also protects against HDV.

- B. The HBV vaccine does not contain live virus.
- C. The HBV vaccine may pose a risk of HBV transmission.
- D. HBV can survive up to 1 week in dried blood.

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

The HBV vaccine does not contain live virus and thus does not carry the risk of HBV infection. HBV vaccine also protects against hepatitis D virus (HDV) because HDV is only contracted concurrently with HBV. HBV can survive up to 1 week in dried blood on work surfaces or other objects.

#### **QUESTION NO: 12**

HCV exposure may occur through:

- A. Urine
- B. Sexual contact
- C. Semen
- D. Phlebotomy procedures

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection may occur through exposure to blood and serum and is primarily transmitted through sexual contact and needle sharing. However, it is rarely found in urine or semen and is not associated with phlebotomy procedures.

#### **QUESTION NO: 13**

To reduce the risk of transmission of a bloodborne pathogen via an open wound, the phlebotomist should:

- A. Cleanse the wound with bleach.
- B. Cleanse the wound with an antiseptic.
- C. Cleanse the wound with soap and water.
- D. Squeeze the wound to release fluid.

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Cleansing the wound with plain soap and water for at least 30 seconds is useful in reducing the risk of transmission of a bloodborne pathogen via an open wound. Squeezing the wound or cleansing the wound with an antiseptic, bleach, or other caustic agent is not recommended.

#### **QUESTION NO: 14**

Which class of fire can be put out with water?

- A. Class D
- B. Class A
- C. Class C
- D. Class K

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

Class A fires involve wood, paper clothing or other combustibles. This is the only class of fire that can be put out with water, other fires may become more dangerous if water is added. Class D fires involve combustible or reactive metals such as sodium, potassium, magnesium, or lithium. Class C fires involve electrical equipment. Class B fires involve flammable liquids or gases such as paint or propane. Fire extinguishers are available for all classes of fires, but should only be used by trained individuals who are sure that the extinguisher type is correct for the type of fire. Large fires and fires involving multiple classes of fire must be handled by trained firefighting personnel.

**QUESTION NO: 15**

A fire caused by the splashing of hot grease from a frying pan is classified as a:

- A. Class K fire
- B. Class A fire
- C. Class B fire
- D. Class D fire

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

Class K fires are often caused by high-temperature cooking oils, grease, or fats. Class A fires occur with wood, paper, or clothing. Class B fires occur with flammable liquids and vapors, such as paint or gasoline. Class D fires are associated with combustible or reactive metals such as sodium or potassium.

**QUESTION NO: 16**

All of the following are acceptable procedures to control wound hemorrhage EXCEPT:

- A. Applying direct pressure to the wound
- B. Using an elastic bandage to hold a compress onto a wound
- C. Removing the original compress when adding additional material
- D. Using cloth or gauze to apply pressure

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

When adding additional compresses to a wound, the original compress should not be removed, as removing it could interfere with the clotting process. Direct pressure should be applied to the wound using cloth or gauze. An elastic bandage can be used to hold the compress in place.

**QUESTION NO: 17**

Which of the following abbreviations is NOT included on The Joint Commission's "Do Not Use" list?

- A. IU
- B. IV
- C. U
- D. QD

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

IV is an acceptable acronym meaning intravenous. However, IU, or international unit, is often confused with IV and thus should not be used. U should be written out as unit and QD as daily.

**QUESTION NO: 18**

Which of the following is on the "List of Error-Prone Abbreviations, Symbols, and Dose Designations" published by ISMP.

- A. Minus sign (-)
- B. Equals sign (=)
- C. Plus-or-minus sign ( $\pm$ )
- D. Less than sign (<)

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

The symbols for less than (<) and greater than can be confused for the letter L and the number 7, respectively, especially when hand-written. The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) put these symbols on their "List of Error-Prone Abbreviations, Symbols, and Dose Designations" and recommends using "less than" or "greater than" instead.

**QUESTION NO: 19**

A patient lying on their stomach is said to be in the:

- A. Anatomic position
- B. Prone position
- C. Supine position
- D. Reclining position

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

A patient lying on their stomach is in the prone position. A patient lying on their back, face up, is in the supine position. A patient standing erect with arms at their sides and palms facing forward is considered to be in the anatomic position. Reclined position is also referred to as semi-Fowler's position, with the head of the bed at approximately 30 to 45 degrees.

**QUESTION NO: 20**

Which of the following statements regarding lumbar puncture is FALSE?

- A. The needle enters the spinal cavity.
- B. The needle enters the space between the 3rd and 4th lumbar vertebrae.
- C. The procedure poses a risk of injury to the spinal cord.
- D. The patient may experience a headache as a side effect.

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Because the spinal cord ends at the first lumbar vertebra, lumbar puncture does not present a risk of spinal cord injury. The physician inserts the needle into the spinal cavity at the space between the 3rd and 4th lumbar vertebrae. The patient may experience a headache as a result of the drop in pressure around the brain caused by the removal of cerebrospinal fluid.

**QUESTION NO: 21**

The hormone epinephrine:

- A. Increases blood pressure and heartrate
- B. Controls thyroid activity
- C. Is associated with SAD
- D. Decreases urine production

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

The hormone epinephrine increases heart rate, blood pressure, and metabolic rate. The antidiuretic hormone (ADH) decreases urine production. Calcitonin lowers blood calcium levels. Melatonin helps set diurnal rhythms and is associated with seasonal affective disorder (SAD).

**QUESTION NO: 22**

Increased levels of which of the following are associated with heart attack?

- A. Albumin
- B. PSA
- C. CK
- D. CEA

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Increased levels of creatine kinase (CK) are associated with heart attack. The PSA, or prostate specific antigen, level is used to test for prostate cancer. Carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA) is used in digestive system testing. Albumin is used in urinary system testing.

**QUESTION NO: 23**

Which tube type is the most frequent source of carryover contamination?

- A. Heparin tubes
- B. EDTA tubes
- C. PTTtests
- D. Coagulation tubes

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

EDTA tubes are more frequently associated with carryover contamination than any other types of additives, while heparin is associated with the least amount of interference. Coagulation tubes, which contain sodium citrate, are the first to be filled because all other additives interfere with coagulation tests. Partial thromboplastin time (PTT) tests are affected by tissue thromboplastin contamination.

**QUESTION NO: 24**

A phlebotomist needs to draw SST, red top, gray top, and sterile blood specimens. Which of the following correctly describes the recommended order of draw when using a syringe?

- A. SST follows red top
- B. Redtop is last

- C. Gray top is first
- D. Sterile specimens are last

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

In the recommended order of draw for venipuncture, including when using a syringe, sterile specimens are first followed by light-blue tops. Next are the tubes with no additives, which are red tops, followed by SSTs, green tops, purple/lavender tops, and finally gray tops.

#### **QUESTION NO: 25**

A laboratory has an alternate order of draw for blood collected using syringes. It is based on the reasoning that the blood in the syringe may start to clot before it is fully transferred into the tubes. Which of the following is true about this laboratory's order of draw?

- A. The light-blue top is first
- B. The lavender top is first
- C. The red top and SST are last
- D. The graytop is last

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Once blood has started to clot, as it may in a syringe, the blood can no longer be placed in blood tubes with anticoagulants. Blood that may have started to clot can, however, be transferred to red-top or SST tubes, where it is meant to clot. This laboratory's alteration to the standard order of draw would be to fill all anticoagulant tubes first (in the same order as in the standard order of draw), before the blood in the syringe begins to clot, then the red tops and SSTs.

#### **QUESTION NO: 26**

A sign with a picture of falling leaves may be used to indicate:

- A. Do not resuscitate order
- B. Miscarriage
- C. No venipuncture in right arm
- D. Fall precautions

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

A sign with a picture of falling leaves indicates that fall precautions are required for the patient. The letters DNR indicate a "do not resuscitate" order. A pink wristband or sign labeled "restricted extremity" may be used to indicate that the arm should not be used for venipuncture, blood pressures, or other procedures.

#### **QUESTION NO: 27**

Which of the following statements regarding obtaining a blood specimen from a patient is FALSE?

- A. The phlebotomist should ask the patient's permission before collecting blood.
- B. The patient has the right to refuse the blood draw.
- C. The name of the ordering physician on the ID band should not differ from that on the

requisition form.

**D.** Patient identity should always be verified.

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Occasionally, the name of the ordering physician, room number, or bed number on the patients ID band may differ from these details on the requisition form. Patient identity must always be verified before collecting blood. As part of informed consent, patients have the right to refuse any blood draw (with a few legal exceptions such as court-ordered drug testing); thus, the phlebotomist must ask the patients permission before collecting blood.

**QUESTION NO: 28**

Which of the following statements regarding patient identification is FALSE?

**A.** An outpatient may be identified by an ID card.

**B.** An outpatient should be asked to state his or her name and date of birth.

**C.** If a patient has been identified by the receptionist no further verification is needed.

**D.** A patient's response when his or her name is called is not sufficient for identification.

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

The phlebotomist should always verify a patient's ID, even if he or she has been identified by the receptionist or has responded when his or her name has been called. Some outpatients may have been issued an ID card by the clinic: however, outpatients should still be asked to confirm their name and date of birth.

**QUESTION NO: 29**

When the phlebotomist is using microcollection tubes for a fingerstick, the collection tube that should usually be filled first is:

**A.** Gray-capped

**B.** Lavender-capped

**C.** Green-capped

**D.** Yellow-capped

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

When the phlebotomist is using microcollection tubes for a fingerstick the collection tube that should usually be filled first is the lavender-capped tube (this different from the order used with venipuncture) to ensure that the volume collected is sufficient for hematology tests. This is followed by other collection tubes that contain additives, and the plain tubes utilized for serum collection are filled last. In most cases, the first drop of blood is wiped away and the second drop of blood is collected.

**QUESTION NO: 30**

All of the following statements regarding tourniquet application are true EXCEPT:

**A.** The patient should be told to pump his fist.

**B.** A tourniquet may be applied over the patient's sleeve.

**C.** Two tourniquets may be used together.

**D.** A tourniquet should not be applied over an open sore.

**Answer:** A

Explanation:

When applying a tourniquet, fist pumping should be discouraged, as it may make vein location more difficult or cause changes in blood components that may affect test results. A tourniquet may be applied over a patient's sleeve if the sleeve is too tight and cannot be rolled up far enough. Because a tourniquet may have a tendency to roll or twist on the arm of an obese patient two tourniquets may be stacked and used together. A tourniquet should never be placed over an open sore.