

Chapter # 34/35: Pediatric & Geriatric Emergencies

1. The first month of life after birth is referred to as the:
 - A) neonatal period.
 - B) toddler period.
 - C) start of infancy.
 - D) premature phase.

2. Unless he or she is critically ill or injured, you should generally begin your assessment of a toddler:
 - A) at the feet.
 - B) at the head.
 - C) in the ambulance.
 - D) en route to the hospital.

3. When assessing an 8-year-old child, you should:
 - A) refrain from taking a blood pressure.
 - B) talk to the child, not just the caregiver.
 - C) use a toe-to-head assessment approach.
 - D) rely solely on the parent for information.

4. Pale skin in a child indicates that the:
 - A) child is in severe decompensated shock.
 - B) oxygen content in the blood is decreased.
 - C) blood vessels near the skin are constricted.
 - D) child's core body temperature is elevated.

5. The purpose of the pediatric assessment triangle (PAT) is to:
 - A) determine if the child's vital signs are within the age-appropriate limits.
 - B) allow you to rapidly and visually form a general impression of the child.
 - C) facilitate a rapid head-to-toe assessment of the child by visualization only.
 - D) gather critical data by performing a rapid hands-on assessment of the child.

6. You are dispatched to a residence for a child with respiratory distress. The patient, an 18-month-old female, is tachypneic, has sternal retractions, and is clinging to her mother. Her skin is pink and dry, and her heart rate is 120 beats/min. The MOST appropriate treatment for this child includes:
- A) requesting a paramedic ambulance to insert an advanced airway device.
 - B) separating the child from her mother and providing ventilatory assistance.
 - C) administering blow-by oxygen and transporting the child with her mother.
 - D) allowing the child to remain with her mother and applying a nasal cannula.
7. A viral infection that may cause obstruction of the upper airway in a child is called:
- A) croup.
 - B) asthma.
 - C) bronchitis.
 - D) epiglottitis.
8. Infection should be considered a possible cause of an airway obstruction in an infant or child, especially if he or she presents with:
- A) extreme restlessness.
 - B) drooling or congestion.
 - C) skin that is cool and dry.
 - D) acute respiratory distress.
9. A 5-year-old child has had severe vomiting and diarrhea for 4 days. Which of the following assessment findings would be the MOST indicative of decompensated shock?
- A) Capillary refill time of 4 seconds
 - B) Respiratory rate of 30 breaths/min
 - C) Blood pressure of 70/40 mm Hg
 - D) Pulse rate greater than 120/min
10. Common causes of seizures in children include all of the following, EXCEPT:
- A) infection.
 - B) hyperglycemia.
 - C) electrolyte imbalances.
 - D) poisonings or ingestion.
11. Signs and symptoms of meningitis in the infant or child include all of the following, EXCEPT:
- A) sunken fontanelles.
 - B) headache and fever.
 - C) a stiff or painful neck.
 - D) altered mental status.

12. When questioning the parent of a child who ingested a poisonous substance, which of the following questions would be of LEAST pertinence initially?
- A) What time did the ingestion occur?
 - B) Have you noticed any signs or symptoms?
 - C) Why did your child ingest the poison?
 - D) Do you know what substance was ingested?
13. A 2-year-old female has experienced a seizure. When you arrive at the scene, the child is conscious, crying, and clinging to her mother. Her skin is hot and moist. The mother tells you that the seizure lasted approximately 5 minutes. She further tells you that her daughter has no history of seizures, but has had a recent ear infection. You should:
- A) allow the mother to drive her daughter to the hospital.
 - B) cool the child with tepid water and transport to the hospital.
 - C) place the child in cold water to attempt to reduce her fever.
 - D) suspect that the child has meningitis and transport at once.
14. An infant with severe dehydration would be expected to present with:
- A) excessive tearing.
 - B) moist oral mucosa.
 - C) bulging fontanelles.
 - D) absent urine output.
15. When a child is struck by a car, the area of greatest injury depends MOSTLY on the:
- A) speed at which the car was traveling when impact occurred.
 - B) size of the child and the height of the bumper upon impact.
 - C) age of the child and the size of the car that struck him or her.
 - D) height of the child and the speed at which the car was traveling.
16. Burns in children are commonly caused by all of the following, EXCEPT:
- A) hot items on a stovetop.
 - B) scalding water in a bathtub.
 - C) exposure to caustic chemicals.
 - D) entrapment in a structural fire.
17. Which of the following findings is LEAST suggestive of child abuse?
- A) Evidence of alcohol consumption or drug use at the scene
 - B) Burns to the hands or feet that involve a glove distribution
 - C) Consistency in the method of injury reported by the caregiver
 - D) An unexplained delay in seeking medical care after the injury

18. When caring for a female child who has possibly been sexually abused, you should:
- A) encourage the child to urinate and take a shower.
 - B) have a female EMT remain with her if possible.
 - C) carefully examine the genitalia for signs of injury.
 - D) immediately report your suspicions to the parents.
19. Which of the following statements regarding sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) is correct?
- A) Certain cases of SIDS are predictable and therefore preventable.
 - B) SIDS is most commonly the result of an overwhelming infection.
 - C) Death as a result of SIDS can occur at any time of the day or night.
 - D) The cause of death following SIDS can be established by autopsy.

20. While triaging patients at the scene of a motor-vehicle crash, you encounter a 5-year-old child who is unresponsive and apneic. After positioning his airway, you should:
- A) deliver 5 rescue breaths.
 - B) palpate for a carotid pulse.
 - C) categorize him as deceased.
 - D) categorize him as immediate.

Geriatric Chapter 35

1. Geriatric patients present as a special problem for caregivers because:
 - A) the classic presentation of disease is often altered.
 - B) geriatric patients tend not to understand their underlying conditions.
 - C) their medications are rather difficult to learn.
 - D) the typical diseases of the geriatric population are uncommon.

2. Which of the following is generally NOT acceptable when interviewing an elderly patient?
 - A) Do not initiate eye contact, because many geriatric patients might find it disrespectful.
 - B) Speak slowly and distinctly.
 - C) Give the patient time to respond unless the condition appears urgent.
 - D) Explain what you are doing before you do it.

3. You are responding to the dementia unit at a nursing home for respiratory care. When you arrive, you notice that the patient is experiencing mild dyspnea and an altered mental status. What can you do to help determine if the patient's altered mental status is appropriate for her underlying dementia?
 - A) As long as the patient is alert and able to answer most questions, there is no need to determine if this is normal behavior.
 - B) Ask the patient's roommate if this is normal behavior for the patient.
 - C) Find a staff member who can explain the patient's underlying mental status to you.
 - D) Because the patient already has dementia, there is no need to investigate further.

4. The "E" of the GEMS diamond stands for:
 - A) environmental assessment.
 - B) events leading to the incident.
 - C) extrication of the patient.
 - D) emergency assessment.

5. A drop in blood pressure with a change in position is referred to as:
 - A) orthostatic hypotension.
 - B) metastatic hypotension.
 - C) malignant hypotension.
 - D) psychogenic hypotension.

6. Which of the following statements regarding depression is true?
 - A) Treatment typically involves medication, because counseling typically does not work.

- B) Older adults in skilled nursing facilities are less likely to develop depression.
- C) It generally does not interfere with ability to function in the elderly.
- D) It is diagnosed three times more commonly in women than in men.

7. Using the patient's _____ shows respect and helps the patient to focus on _____ questions.

8. Hip fractures are more likely to occur when bones are weakened by _____

Match the following:

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| 9. Aneurysm | A) Sudden change in mental status, consciousness, or cognitive function |
| 10. Cataract | B) Fainting |
| 11. Delirium | C) Clouding of the lens of the eye |
| 12. Dementia | D) Difficulty breathing |
| 13. Syncope | E) Forward curling of the spine |
| 14. Dyspnea | F) Slow onset of progressive decline in mental and physical function |
| 15. Kyphosis | G) Abnormal blood-filled dilation of a blood vessel |