

CHAPTER 12 QUIZ

Write the letter of the best answer in the space provided.

- _____ 1. To check the level of responsiveness in a 7-month-old infant who appears drowsy, the EMT-B should:
- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| A. perform a sternal rub. | C. tap the bottom of the feet. |
| B. pinch the back of the neck. | D. pat the baby on the head. |
- _____ 2. Throughout the assessment of the conscious adult patient, the EMT-B should remember to do all of the following except:
- | |
|--|
| A. explain procedures as they are carried out. |
| B. talk in a reassuring tone. |
| C. never speak directly to the patient. |
| D. consider the patient's feelings. |
- _____ 3. When assessing a conscious child, the EMT-B should remember to:
- | |
|---|
| A. maintain eye contact with the patient. |
| B. speak only to the parents. |
| C. use medical terms to explain care. |
| D. never let the child handle equipment. |
- _____ 4. The only thing that should prevent an EMT-B from performing the ongoing assessment of a patient is:
- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| A. police orders. | C. delayed transport. |
| B. life-saving interventions. | D. initial vital signs that are normal. |
- _____ 5. When assessing the circulation of a young child or infant, the EMT-B should remember to check:
- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| A. capillary refill. | C. chest movement. |
| B. nuchal rigidity. | D. Babinski's reflex. |
- _____ 6. Ongoing assessment is a means of determining:
- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| A. mechanism of injury. | C. consent. |
| B. trending. | D. liability. |
- _____ 7. During the ongoing assessment, attempt to look at a patient as if you had never seen him before when checking:
- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| A. blood pressure. | C. pupils. |
| B. pulse. | D. interventions. |
- _____ 8. The EMT-B's findings during the ongoing assessment are particularly important for the:
- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| A. dispatcher. | C. hospital staff. |
| B. insurance report. | D. QI review. |
- _____ 9. Just how often to conduct the ongoing assessment is determined by the:
- | |
|---------------------------------------|
| A. location of the injury. |
| B. initial assessment. |
| C. patient's condition. |
| D. number of interventions performed. |
- _____ 10. The recommended interval for conducting the ongoing assessment for stable patients is:
- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| A. every 5 minutes. | C. determined by medical control. |
| B. once during transport. | D. every 15 minutes. |

IN THE FIELD

Read the following real-life situation. Then answer the questions that follow.

Another busy day at the ambulance service is in full swing. You and your crew have just returned to the station when the tone sounds again. You are dispatched to a home where a 65-year-old female patient was found to be unresponsive.

The site of the call is a quiet suburban street. A man greets you at the curb. He tells you that he had been working in the garden and just came in for lunch. He called his wife, and when he got no answer, looked for her and found her lying on the sofa. He states that his wife has been “feeling poorly” for the past week.

The patient is still lying on the sofa in the den when you enter the house. She does not respond to your voice, but pulls away from mild painful stimulation. You note snoring and gurgling respirations. The patient’s husband informs you that his wife has a history of allergies and shortness of breath. You notice that the patient is breathing at a rate of 40 breaths per minute, with shallow respirations.

While you are assessing the airway, your partner is assessing the patient’s blood pressure. He informs you that the blood pressure is within normal limits. The patient’s heart rate is 104 beats per minute.

1. Is this patient breathing adequately?
2. What initial interventions will you perform?
3. How will you manage this patient?
4. How would you check interventions during the ongoing assessment?

CHAPTER 12 REVIEW

Write the word or words that best complete each sentence in the space provided.

1. It is important to observe and reobserve your patient, not only to determine his condition when you first see him, but to note _____.
2. During the _____, you will repeat key elements of assessment procedures you have already performed.
3. When reassessing oxygen delivery to a patient, you should check the _____, the _____, the tubing, and the mask.
4. During the ongoing assessment, _____ must be watched for continually and managed immediately when discovered.
5. When assessing circulation in a young child, if you press on a nail bed and then release the pressure, the pink color should return in less than _____.
6. During the ongoing assessment, you will reassess and record the vital signs, comparing the results with the _____.
7. It is especially important to _____ each vital sign as soon as you obtain it.
8. _____ is present when a part of the chest moves in a direction opposite to the motion of the rest of the chest.
9. Trending refers to _____ in a patient's condition.
10. The ongoing assessment should be performed every 5 minutes for a(n) _____ patient.

ONGOING ASSESSMENT TRUE OR FALSE

Indicate if the following statements are true or false by writing T or F in the space provided.

- _____ 1. You will perform the ongoing assessment on every patient after you have finished performing life-saving interventions and, often, after you have done the detailed physical exam.
- _____ 2. Sometimes you may skip doing a detailed physical exam because you are too busy taking care of life-threatening problems.
- _____ 3. The ongoing assessment must never be skipped except when life-saving interventions prevent doing it.
- _____ 4. In small children who have very small nail beds, press on the top of the sternum to check capillary refill.
- _____ 5. The recording of vital signs should be deferred to the end of the call so that you can focus better on the patient's needs.
- _____ 6. The one element of the assessment that is usually skipped during the ongoing assessment is the focused assessment.
- _____ 7. When assessing the oxygen delivery system connected to the patient, a good habit to develop is to check the entire path of the oxygen from the tank to the patient.
- _____ 8. When an unbandaged wound is in a location where you cannot see it, you should gently palpate it with gloved hands and check your gloves for blood.
- _____ 9. Both stable and unstable patients should be reassessed at 10-minute intervals.
- _____ 10. Documenting changes in a patient's condition over time, such as slowing respirations or a rising pulse rate, that may show improvement or deterioration is known as trending.

ONGOING ASSESSMENT LISTING

Complete the following lists.

1. List the five steps of patient assessment.

2. List the four steps of the ongoing assessment.

3. The EMT-B begins the ongoing assessment by repeating the initial assessment to recheck for life-threatening problems. List six important steps in rechecking for life-threatening problems.

4. List five vital signs that should be reassessed during ongoing assessment.

5. List three things that should always be done when checking interventions.

Chapter 12 Answer Key

HANDOUT 12-2 Chapter 12 Quiz

- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. C | 3. A | 5. A | 7. D | 9. C |
| 2. C | 4. B | 6. B | 8. C | 10. D |

HANDOUT 12-3 In the Field

1. No. She has gurgling, snoring respirations, a rate much higher than normal, and is breathing shallowly.
2. Complete the initial assessment, assure that the airway is open and clear, and administer high-flow oxygen.
3. After taking the steps described above, you would complete the other components of patient assessment. If the patient is unable to manage her respirations at any point during the assessment, you would provide positive pressure ventilations. An airway adjunct such as a nasopharyngeal airway should be inserted. Frequent checks should be made of vital signs during the ongoing assessment.
4. You'd be especially sure to check adequacy of oxygen delivery and ventilations. Check the entire path of oxygen from tank to patient. Check regulator and flowmeter. Look for kinks in tubing. Check that tubing is connected to the mask and that the mask has a good fit.

HANDOUT 12-4 Chapter 12 Review

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. any changes | 6. baseline measurements |
| 2. ongoing assessment | 7. record |
| 3. regulator, flowmeter | 8. Paradoxical motion |
| 4. life threats | 9. changes over time |
| 5. two seconds | 10. unstable |

HANDOUT 12-5 Ongoing Assessment True or False

- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. T | 3. T | 5. F | 7. T | 9. F |
| 2. T | 4. F | 6. F | 8. T | 10. T |

HANDOUT 12-6 Ongoing Assessment Listing

1. scene size-up; initial assessment; focused history and physical examination; detailed physical examination; ongoing assessment
2. repeat initial assessment; reassess and record vital signs; repeat focused assessment; check interventions
3. reassess mental status; maintain an open airway; monitor breathing for rate and quality; reassess pulse for rate and quality; monitor skin color and temperature; reestablish patient priorities
4. pulse; respirations; skin—color and temperature; pupils; blood pressure
5. assure adequacy of oxygen delivery; assure management of bleeding; assure adequacy of other interventions