

Medical Technology

DANB-ICE

Dental Assisting National Board's (DANB) Infection Control (ICE) Exam

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Question: 1

Which of the following is a correct statement regarding pre-procedural mouth rinses?

- A. Pre-procedural rinses are to be used both before and after the procedure for maximum effectiveness,
- B. There is a large amount of scientific evidence that supports the use and effectiveness of pre-procedural mouth rinses in preventing oral infections in patients.
- C. Pre-procedural mouth rinses are recommended by the CDC prior to prophylaxis procedures.
- D. The intent of pre-procedural mouth rinses is to reduce the amount of microbes found in the oral cavity and to prevent them from being released into the air during a procedure.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Pre-procedural mouth rinses have the purpose of reducing the number of microbes present in the mouth prior to a procedure being performed. This will then decrease the volume of microbes that have the potential to be released from the patient's mouth and into the air. According to the CDC, there is no substantial evidence indicating that pre-procedural mouth rinses reduce the prevalence of clinical infections, and therefore, they are not recommended for use at this time to prevent clinical infections among patients or dental healthcare workers.

Question: 2

Which type of hard surface disinfectant is broad spectrum, intermediate level, and must be prepared daily?

- A. Glutaraldehyde.
- B. Synthetic phenol compounds.
- C. Iodophors.
- D. Chlorine dioxide.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Synthetic phenol compounds. These types of surface disinfectants are prepared daily and are classified as intermediate-level hospital disinfectants. Since they leave a chemical residue on some surfaces, it is best to use synthetic phenol compounds on rubber or plastic items, rather than metals.

Question: 3

How many employees in a dental office will necessitate a written emergency action plan?

- A. 2 or more.
- B. 5 or more.
- C. 11 or more.
- D. 20 or more.

Answer: C

Explanation:

According to OSHA a written plan must be kept in office records if the office employs 11 or more people. This is the size where OSHA mandates have decreed the need for certain documentation, which must be enacted and maintained.

Question: 4

Surgical instruments require to insure they are not corroded by thorough and constant sterilization under high heat and pressure.

- A. soaking for at least an hour in detergent
- B. placement in a surgical milk bath before packaging for the autoclave
- C. thorough scrubbing with brushes
- D. extra rinsing with hot water

Answer: B

Explanation:

Placement in a surgical milk bath before packaging for the autoclave. Detergents may remove some of the surface sheen on surgical tools and contribute to the oxidizing formation of rust. It is acceptable to use regular dish washing soap as a holding solution for oral surgery instruments, but they should be dipped in surgical milk (without subsequent rinsing) to coat them before packaging for the autoclave. This will protect their longevity.

Question: 5

Which of the following terms can be defined as a person who is infected with a disease but does not show any recognizable symptoms of that disease?

- A. Pathogenic carrier.
- B. Microbial carrier.
- C. Communicable carrier.
- D. Asymptomatic carrier.

Answer: D

Explanation:

An asymptomatic carrier is an individual that is infected with a disease but who does not show any symptoms. This type of individual poses a danger to dental healthcare workers and the general public, due to the fact that he or she is infected with a contagious disease and has the capability to spread that infection. However, the person may not show any signs or symptoms of an infection and may not even know about the infection.

Question: 6

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Guidelines for Infection Control in Dental Health-Care Settings were developed for which category of employees?

- A. Office support
- B. Clinical employees
- C. Insurance companies
- D. Dental accreditation bodies

Answer: B

Explanation:

In 2003, the CDC developed a very detailed list of infection control guidelines for all healthcare workers (or clinical employees) who may be exposed to blood or other body fluids. In dentistry, these clinical employees include the dentist, dental hygienist, dental assistant, and anyone else who may provide direct or indirect care and have potential exposure. The CDC does not enforce these guidelines; it only collaborates with experts in the field of infection control and dentistry to develop them. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) enforces the guidelines. Every clinical team member must be aware of and abide by these guidelines.

Question: 7

Which level of disinfection is required for counter tops in the dental operatory?

- A. Glutaraldehyde spray.
- B. Household degreaser spray.
- C. Alcohol wipes.
- D. Surface disinfectant with tuberculocidal capability.

Answer: D

Explanation:

It is necessary to use a surface disinfectant that contains tuberculocidal additives on any counter tops within three feet of the dental chair. These surfaces are near enough to the patient's mouth to be contaminated by aerosol back spray.

Question: 8

Who is covered by the OSHA bloodborne pathogens standard?

- A. All employees who are occupationally exposed to blood or other potentially infectious materials.
- B. Anyone in any type of job, as it is a multifaceted standard.
- C. Physicians and dentists are covered and have the option to delegate duties of this standard to their employees.
- D. Clinical dental workers only.

Answer: A

Explanation:

The bloodborne pathogens standard is set in place to help protect all employees who are exposed to blood or other potentially infectious materials. This standard has many areas of coverage that relate to different fields in which workers may come into contact with blood, including nursing, dentistry, and mortuary science. All individuals in these fields are expected to abide by and follow the guidelines in this standard.

Question: 9

When working on a patient who is infected with syphilis, the dental assistant must ensure that they are adequately protected by personal protective equipment in order to prevent which of the following that is associated with this infection?

- A. An infectious ulcerating sore called a chancre.
- B. Inhalation of highly infectious viral particles known as *Treponema pallidum*.
- C. Exposure to bacteria that will lead to an infection causing lockjaw.
- D. An infectious lesion on the tongue called herpes.

Answer: A

Explanation:

When an individual is infected with syphilis, he has a bacterial infection that is caused by the *Treponema pallidum* spirochete bacteria. The bacteria enter the body through an open sore, through blood, or through body fluids. Once the infection starts, it can be divided into three stages. During the first stage, the infected individual may develop an ulcerating infectious sore called a chancre. The dental healthcare worker must prevent fluids from this lesion from contacting her skin or mucous membranes in order to prevent the spread of this infection. During the second stage, the infected individual may demonstrate mucous patches and measles-type rashes on the body. The third stage is typically fatal and does not show itself until 20 years after the initial infection, due to remaining dormant in the body for so many years.

Question: 10

Which is correct regarding the hepatitis B vaccination?

- A. If an employee refuses the vaccination, they are required to obtain counseling regarding the benefits of the vaccination.
- B. The employee is responsible for the cost OF THE vaccination if they initially decline, but change their mind in the future.
- C. If an employee starts the series but does not finish it, they are not required to because of the immunity that has been built up in their body from the initial doses of the vaccine.
- D. The employer must offer the vaccination to all employees at no cost within 10 days of initial employment.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Upon initial employment at a dental office, the employer must offer the new employee the hepatitis B vaccination at no cost to the employee within 10 days. If the employee initially declines the series, they may change their mind at a later date with the employer still being responsible for the cost of the series. If an employee declines to receive the vaccination, they must sign a declination form, which will become part of their permanent medical record; there is no required counseling if this were to occur.

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