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QUESTION 1

Diabetic Ketoacidosis has the following signs and symptoms; Acetone on breath, dry skin, poor skin turgor, altered mental status, confusion, thirst and frequent urination. What other symptoms are associated with DKA?

- A. Normal mental status
- B. Appearance of intoxication
- C. Tremors
- D. Diaphoresis

Correct Answer: B

Due to the hyperglycemic state the kidneys try to diureses the glucose out of the blood stream the more dehydrated the patient becomes. As the blood becomes thicker and thicker the lower the cardiac output and the harder the heart has to work. With the excess glucose and incomplete combustion from other fuel sources the brain is impaired as if the patient is intoxicated.

QUESTION 2

What is the first thing you should do after receiving orders from the medical direction physician?

- A. Carry out the orders immediately.
- B. Repeat the orders exactly as you heard them.
- C. Question anything you did not understand.
- D. Document the orders in your report.

Correct Answer: B

To avoid misunderstanding, always repeat medical orders exactly as you heard them. Once you have done that, you can question any order you do not understand or about which you are unclear. When you complete your written patient care report, you should include the order in your report.

QUESTION 3

During completion of your patient care report, you write the following statement, The patient was obviously intoxicated and intentionally uncooperative. Subjective statements such as this can open the paramedic up to which of the following legal charges?

- A. Res ipsa loquitur
- B. Libel
- C. Malfeasance
- D. Slander

Correct Answer: B

Libel is the act of injuring a patient's character through written statements. Documenting personal opinion and derogatory statements expose the paramedic to Libel. Slander is similar to Libel, but refers to false or malicious statements made verbally. Malfeasance is defined as breach of duty by performing a wrongful or unlawful act. Res ipsa loquitur is a legal doctrine sometimes used in support of negligence claims.

QUESTION 4

Headlights are often overlooked as part of the emergency warning lighting system, the headlights should be used while _____?

- A. On the road
- B. Responding to a call
- C. Returning from a call
- D. Transporting to the hospital

Correct Answer: B

Emergency warning lights are often overlooked in busy high traffic areas, headlights can make a difference when safety counts. Even during daylight hours they increase the chances that the ambulance will be seen. Some headlights are wired to flash when the other emergency warning lights are on which enhances the distance down range the ambulance can be seen.

QUESTION 5

Your 16-year-old trauma patient has what appears to be a mid-shaft femur fracture, you notice that there is a laceration directly over the suspected fracture. Bleeding is controlled, what type of fracture would this be?

- A. Greenstick
- B. Comminuted
- C. Closed
- D. Open

Correct Answer: D

Any time there is open skin over a fracture is considered an open fracture. A greenstick is generally found in children whose bones have not fully ossified. Comminuted is a fracture resulting from extreme forces causing many smaller fractures at the site of the fracture.