

# PRACTICE QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1: THE BACTERIUM MOST LIKELY TO BE TRANSMITTED FROM MOTHER TO INFANT DURING LABOR AND CAUSE NEONATAL SEPSIS IS:

- A. *Escherichia coli*
- B. *Staphylococcus aureus*
- C. Group B *Streptococcus*
- D. Group A *Streptococcus*

QUESTION 2: WHAT TYPE OF MENINGITIS WOULD BE MOST CONSISTENT WITH THE FOLLOWING CEREBROSPINAL FLUID REPORT RESULT:

GLUCOSE: DECREASED  
PROTEIN: ELEVATED  
WBC COUNTS 1,000/MM<sup>3</sup>

- A. Bacterial
- B. Viral
- C. Fungal
- D. Tuberculosis

QUESTION 3: WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANISMS HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE TRANSMISSION OF INFECTIONS AFTER BODY PIERCING?

- 1) *ATYPICAL MYCOBACTERIUM SPECIES*
- 2) *STAPHYLOCOCCUS SPECIES*
- 3) *PSEUDOMONAS SPECIES*
- 4) *HAEMOPHILUS SPECIES*

- A. 1, 2, 3
- B. 2, 3, 4
- C. 1, 3, 4
- D. 1, 2, 4

QUESTION 4: ALL OF THE FOLLOWING MAY BE INDICATIONS OF A HEATING, VENTILATION AND AIR CONDITIONING MALFUNCTION  
*EXCEPT:*

- A. An increase in the postoperative surgical site infection rates
- B. A single case of aspergillosis in a severely immunosuppressed patient
- C. Healthcare-associated varicella infections
- D. An outbreak of ventilator-associated *Acinetobacter* infections in the Intensive Care Unit

## QUESTION 5: SENSITIVITY MAY BE DEFINED AS:

- A. The ability of a test to detect true positives (persons with the disease) when applied to a population with the disease
- B. The ability of a test to detect the true negatives (persons without the disease) when applied to a population without the disease
- C. The ability of a test to detect true positives (persons with disease) when applied to a population without the disease
- D. The percentage of persons with true positive results when the test is applied to persons without the disease

## QUESTION 6: THE MOST COMMON ORGANISM ASSOCIATED WITH PNEUMONIA IN SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS IS:

- A. *Neisseria meningitides*
- B. *Streptococcus pneumonia*
- C. *Staphylococcus aureus*
- D. *Mycoplasma pneumonia*

QUESTION 7: AN EMPLOYEE HAS EXPERIENCED AN ACCIDENTAL NEEDLESTICK INJURY WHILE PROVIDING CARE TO A PATIENT. ALL OF THE FOLLOWING LAB TESTS WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE SOURCE PATIENT EXCEPT:

- A. Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)
- B. Hepatitis B antibody
- C. Hepatitis B surface antigen
- D. Hepatitis C surface antigen



**QUESTION 8:** THE IP RECEIVES A CALL FROM A PHYSICIAN WHO IS CONCERNED THAT THERE IS AN OUTBREAK OF *ACINETOBACTER BAUMANNII*, BECAUSE HE HAS CARED FOR FOUR PATIENTS IN THE PAST WEEK WHO ARE INFECTED WITH THE ORGANISM. WHAT IS THE IP'S FIRST STEP IN RESPONDING TO THIS CALL?

- A. Contact the lab to ask them to create an alert for any *A. baumannii* cases
- B. Contact hospital administration to request additional resources to investigate the outbreak
- C. Confirm that there is an outbreak by using her own surveillance data and lab records to compare the rates of *Acinetobacter baumannii* over the past year
- D. Initiate a case-control study to determine risk factors for *A. baumannii*

## QUESTION 9: VAGINAL PROBES WITH PROBE COVERS REQUIRE WHICH TYPE OF DISINFECTION:

- A. Low-level disinfection
- B. Intermediate-level disinfection
- C. High-level disinfection
- D. Sterilization

QUESTION 10: NONINFECTIOUS POSTOPERATIVE ENDOPHTHALMITIS IS  
MOST OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH:

- A. Wearing contact lens
- B. Toxic anterior segment syndrome (TASS)
- C. Conjunctivitis
- D. Keratitis

QUESTION 11: AN ACUTE CARE FACILITY EXPERIENCES AN OUTBREAK OF SERRATIA MARCESCENS BLOODSTREAM INFECTIONS. AFTER THE OUTBREAK IS UNDER CONTROL AND NO NEW CASES ARE BEING REPORTED, THE IP ANTS TO FIND THE SOURCE OF THE OUTBREAK. THE MOST APPROPRIATE EPIDEMIOLOGY STUDY DESIGN TO USE IS:

- A. Retrospective cohort study
- B. Prospective cohort study
- C. Case-control study
- D. Cross-sectional study

QUESTION 12: AN IP SUBSCRIBES TO SEVERAL PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS. AS SHE REVIEW PUBLISHED ARTICLES DESCRIBING RESEARCH FINDINGS, WHAT QUESTION SHOULD SHE ASK BEFORE INCORPORATING THE CONCLUSIONS/FINDINGS OF THE ARTICLE INTO THE INFECTION PREVENTION PROGRAM:

- A. Was the appropriate study design used and are the conclusions reasonable?
- B. Is the author well known and well published?
- C. Does the article state how to contact the author(s) with questions?
- D. Are the findings described in tables or graphs and easily understandable?

QUESTION 13: AN INFANT IN THE NEONATAL ICU HAS BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH *MALASSEZIA FURFUR* FUNGEMIA. WHAT IS THE MOST LIKELY SOURCE OF THE INFECTION:

- A. Intravenous lipid infusions
- B. A healthcare worker's false fingernails
- C. Commercial powdered infant formula
- D. Respiratory transmission from a colonized family member or healthcare worker

QUESTION 14: A MAJOR DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PROSPECTIVE AND A RETROSPECTIVE STUDY IS THAT THE PROSPECTIVE STUDY:

- A. Requires a relatively small number of subjects
- B. Is usually used for testing initial hypotheses
- C. May require a long follow-up period
- D. Is usually less costly

QUESTION 15: THE “EPIDEMIOLOGIC TRIANGLE” MODEL FOR DISEASE CAUSATION DOES ***NOT*** INCLUDE:

- A. Agent
- B. Host
- C. Time
- D. Environment



QUESTION 16: PATIENTS WITH MYCOPLASMA PNEUMONIA SHOULD BE CARED FOR IN WHICH TYPE OF PRECAUTIONS?

- 1) STANDARD PRECAUTIONS
- 2) AIRBORNE PRECAUTIONS
- 3) DROPLET PRECAUTIONS
- 4) CONTACT PRECAUTIONS

- A. 1, 2
- B. 3, 4
- C. 1, 3
- D. 1, 4

QUESTION 17: WHICH METHOD OF FACE-TO-FACE INSTRUCTION IS A USEFUL OPTION WHEN LARGE NUMBERS OF STAFF MUST BE EDUCATED OVER A RELATIVELY SHORT SPAN OF TIME?

- A. Role play
- B. Mentoring
- C. Case studies
- D. Train the trainer

QUESTION 18: A PATIENT HAS BEEN ADMITTED WITH A WOUND INFECTION. THE LAB REPORTS THAT THE STAIN OF THE WOUND CULTURE IS POSITIVE FOR AFB AND THE CULTURE IS POSITIVE FOR *MYCOBACTERIUM MARINUM*. WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING IS THE CORRECT FOLLOW-UP OF THIS LAB REPORT?

- A. No further follow-up is needed
- B. Place the patient on airborne isolation
- C. Contact the local health department to report the Mycobacterium infection
- D. Place the patient on Contact Precautions

QUESTION 19: WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING QUALITY CONCEPTS WILL IDENTIFY A PATTERN OF OBSERVATION POINTS ABOVE AND BELOW THE MEAN LEVEL?

- A. Fishbone diagram
- B. Run chart
- C. Pareto chart
- D. Process flow chart

QUESTION 20: A HEALTHCARE FACILITY IS UNDERGOING EXTENSIVE RENOVATION. SURVEILLANCE FOR WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANISM WOULD BE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT DURING ANY CONSTRUCTION OR RENOVATION PROJECT IN A HEALTHCARE FACILITY?

- A. MRSA, VRE, and other MDROs
- B. *Legionella* and *Aspergillus*
- C. Gram-negative bacilli
- D. *Mycobacterium abscessus*

**QUESTION 21: WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING NEED TO BE CONSIDERED WHEN UPDATING THE ANNUAL INFECTION RISK ASSESSMENT?**

**1) AN EVALUATION OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

**2) AN IDENTIFICATION OF RISKS BASED ON GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION, COMMUNITY AND POPULATION SERVED**

**3) RISKS RELATED TO THE TYPE OF SERVICES THAT THE FACILITY PROVIDES**

**4) A BROAD ASSESSMENT OF ALL RISKS IDENTIFIED IN THE FACILITY**

**A. 1, 2, 4**

**B. 1, 2, 3**

**C. 2, 3, 4**

**D. 1, 3, 4**

QUESTION 22: LIST THE FOLLOWING DISEASES IN ORDER OF RESISTANCE OF THE DISEASE AGENTS TO DISINFECTION AND STERILIZATION, FROM HIGH RESISTANCE TO LOW RESISTANCE

- 1) STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS
- 2) CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE
- 3) CREUTZFELDT-JAKOB DISEASE
- 4) POLIO

- A. 1, 2, 3, 4
- B. 2, 3, 4, 1
- C. 3, 4, 2, 1
- D. 3, 2, 4, 1

## QUESTION 23: THE INCUBATION PERIOD FOR MENINGOCOCCAL MENINGITIS IS:

- A. 10 to 14 days
- B. 7 to 21 days
- C. 2 to 10 days
- D. 1 to 2 day



## QUESTION 24: PROPERLY WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES INCLUDE:

- A. Statements that communicate the intent of the curriculum
- B. Directions and plans for the educational session
- C. Learner outcomes in measurable terms using action verbs
- D. Measures of change and growth in the learner

## QUESTION 25: HEPATITIS A IS DIAGNOSED BY THE PRESENCE OF:

- A. Immunoglobulin G (IgG) for anti-Hepatitis D virus (HDV)
- B. Hepatitis A virus (HAV) Immunoglobulin M (IgM)
- C. Increase in anti-Hepatitis B virus (HBV)-related to previous Hepatitis B infection
- D. HAV IgG

## QUESTION 26:A CLASSIC SIGN OF MEASLES IS:

- A. Kaposi sarcoma
- B. Stiff neck
- C. Koplik spots
- D. Bull's-eye rash

QUESTION 27: A PATIENT FROM A LONG TERM CARE FACILITY IS BEING TRANSFERRED TO AN ACUTE CARE FACILITY FOR AN OUTPATIENT PROCEDURE. THE PATIENT HAS A HISTORY OF CRYPTOCOCCAL MENINGITIS. THE OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT ASKS THE IP WHAT TYPE OF ISOLATION PRECAUTIONS THE PATIENT REQUIRES. THE IP INFORMS THEM THAT THE PATIENT REQUIRES:

- A. Airborne precautions
- B. Droplet precautions
- C. Standard precautions
- D. Contact precautions

QUESTION 28: AN INSPECTION OF THE STERILE PROCESSING DEPARTMENT REVEALS SEVERAL INCORRECT PRACTICES. WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING WOULD BE A *CORRECT* PRACTICE?

- A. Ensuring hinged instruments are cleaned with the hinge closed
- B. Flushing instruments with saline
- C. Daily use of a biological indicator in the sterilizer
- D. Transporting contaminated instruments in a permeable container

QUESTION 29: THE HEMODIALYSIS DEPARTMENT AT A HOSPITAL COMPLETES A MONTHLY WATER CULTURE TESTING. THE RESULTS ARE OVER THE LIMIT FOR CFU/ML. WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS SHOULD BE DONE FIRST?

- A. Notify the physician
- B. Initiate daily water culture testing
- C. Disinfect the system
- D. Notify the Infection Control Department

QUESTION 30: CONTACT PRECAUTIONS FOR A PATIENT WITH SCABIES  
CAN BE DISCONTINUED WHEN THE PATIENT HAS RECEIVED EFFECTIVE  
TREATMENT FOR:

- A. 10 days
- B. 7 days
- C. 48 hours
- D. 24 hours

## QUESTION 31: WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING SCENARIOS IS AN EXAMPLE OF THE PREPARATION PHASE OF THE TRANSTHEORETICAL MODEL?

- A. Auditing reveals that staff compliance with personal protective equipment use has increased in the last month
- B. Data is showing a 96 percent compliance rate for PPE use in the last 10 months
- C. Staff are discussing strategies to increase PPE use at the monthly staff meeting
- D. Staff are questioning why they need to wear PPE when caring for patients in isolation



QUESTION 32: WHEN PERFORMING AN AUDIT OF THE ENDOSCOPY DEPARTMENT, THE IP OBSERVES THE FOLLOWING PRACTICES. WHICH ONE IS CAUSE FOR CONCERN

- A. Single-use brushes are used to clean the scopes
- B. Equipment is immersed in enzymatic cleaner that is discarded every 24 hours
- C. Leak testing performed on scopes after each use
- D. Scopes stored vertically in a closed cabinet

QUESTION 33: WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANISMS IS MOST LIKELY TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH CONTAMINATED DISINFECTANTS?

- A. *Pseudomonas* species
- B. Hepatitis C
- C. *Clostridium difficile*
- D. *Cryptosporidium parvum*

QUESTION 34: WHEN A TEST HAS A HIGHER SPECIFICITY THAN SENSITIVITY, IT MEANS THE TEST:

- A. Will be more accurate when predicting who is ill
- B. A negative result will be more accurate than a positive
- C. A positive result will be more accurate than a negative
- D. It should only be done as a secondary testing procedure to rule out disease

**QUESTION 35:** A PREGNANT EVS WORKER, WHO IS NONIMMUNE TO VARICELLA, ENTERS THE ROOM OF A PATIENT WITH CONFIRMED VARICELLA BEFORE AN ISOLATION SIGN IS POSTED. SHE SPENDS 6 MINUTES IN THE ROOM WITH THE PATIENT (WHO IS NOT WEARING A MASK). THIS EXPOSURE HAPPENED ON JANUARY 11. AFTER GIVING THE EMPLOYEE VARICELLA-ZOSTER IMMUNE GLOBULIN, IT IS DETERMINED THAT SHE SHOULD BE EXCLUDED FROM WORK. WHAT DAY CAN SHE RETURN TO WORK?

- A. January 31
- B. February 1
- C. February 8
- D. February 9

QUESTION 36: WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANISMS IS MOST LIKELY TO CONTAMINATE A URINE SPECIMEN IF THE COLLECTION PROCESS IS NOT DONE CORRECTLY:

- A. *Staphylococcus aureus*
- B. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
- C. *Candida albicans*
- D. *Klebsiella pneumoniae*

QUESTION 37:WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANISMS ARE MOST LIKELY TO BE THE CAUSE OF OUTBREAKS OF HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS DUE TO IMPROPER REPROCESSING OF BRONCHOSCOPES?

1) MYCOBACTERIUM TUBERCULOSIS

2) CARBAPENEM-RESISTANT ENTEROBACTERIACEAE

3) PSEUDOMONAS AERUGINOSA

4) STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS

A. 1, 2, 3, 4

B. 1, 3, 4

C. 1, 3

D. 2, 4

## QUESTION 38: WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING WOULD BE BEST STUDIED VIA QUALITATIVE RESEARCH?

- A. The effect of preoperative bathing with CHG on SSI rates
- B. Declining influenza vaccination rates in HCP
- C. MRSA colonization rates in dialysis patients
- D. Reoccurrence of *C. difficile* in nursing home patients

QUESTION 39: THE IP MUST PREPARE A COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS FOR THE PROPOSED PURCHASE OF A NEW ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM FOR THE HOSPITAL . WHICH STATEMENT ABOUT CBA IS CORRECT?

- A. All measures are expressed in monetary (US dollar) terms
- B. Only costs are expressed in monetary (US dollar) terms
- C. CBA is never based on existing financial data
- D. The monetary value of possible benefits is often highly speculative



QUESTION 40: BECAUSE OF THE POTENTIAL FOR RAPID SPREAD, ONE CONFIRMED CASE OF THIS DISEASE IS CONSIDERED AN URGENT PUBLIC HEALTH SITUATION, AND THE IP SHOULD IMMEDIATELY REPORT SUSPECTED AND CONFIRMED CASES TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- A. Chickenpox
- B. Influenza
- C. Measles
- D. Legionnaires' disease