

MA211
Week 6
Critical Thinking Questions

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Date: 02/13/20

All Answers Must be in Complete Sentences

1. John lives in an area of the United States that has hot, sunny days with high humidity. He works on a farm and drives a tractor during the day. What precautions should John take to prevent skin cancer?

It is recommended that John stays out of the midday sun which is from 10 am- 4 pm however since this is what he does for work he should be protecting himself from the UV rays by using a sunscreen that protects from both UVB and UVA rays with a sun protection factor of at least 15 even on cloudy days, Also wearing a wide brimmed hat, light colored clothing and sunglasses can help to provide protection against the skin damages that can occur from hot sunny days.

2. Why should all biopsies and tissues removed from the skin be sent to a laboratory for evaluation by a pathologist?

All biopsies and tissues removed from the skin need to be examined in a lab by a pathologist because the pathologist determines if the cells are benign or malignant. By looking at the cells under a microscope the pathologist grades the sample according to its histologic, or cellular, classification of differentiation. Differentiation is the process normal cells go through to mature. Immature or primitive cells never mature and are classified as anaplastic, or cancer. So the more poorly differentiated the cells look from a sample the more likely the tissue is cancer.

3. Why is patient education so important prior to skin testing for allergies?

Education prior to skin allergy testing is so important so the patient knows what he or she can expect. Also, it's important that the patient stop using any allergy medications such as antihistamines for 3-10 days prior to the allergy testing to avoid false negative results. When testing for allergies it is rare that a serious allergic response occurs, but it can happen. Usually skin testing causes a mild systemic allergic response that may cause wheezing and sneezing. If the symptoms become more severe after leaving the office then the patient needs to know to contact the provider immediately.

4. Why is it so important for the integrity of the skin to be maintained?

Maintaining skin integrity is so important because our skin is our first line of defense against the invasion of microorganisms, provides a protective barrier against many environmental threats and helps our body to maintain proper moisture.

5. Why should all patients with second- and third-degree burns be seen by a physician and properly treated?

Burns could turn into life threatening emergencies that is why all 2nd and 3rd degree burns need to be seen by a physician and properly treated. Both burns could lead to an infection at the site as well if not properly treated. A burn may appear to be 2nd degree by looking at it but the damage could go much deeper than what is seen therefore prompt evaluation and treatment is necessary.

6. 60-year-old Katherine is requesting the zostavax injection. Can she get it?

Yes, Zostavax is a vaccination recommended for people 60 and older whether they recall having had shingles or not. The vaccine does not guarantee protection against shingles, but it can reduce the severity and duration of the outbreak.

7. 14-year-old Akeem has recently moved here from Africa. He has obtained some vaccinations, but due to the language and translation of the vaccine made it difficult to understand them. What vaccines are needed?

At 14 years old it would be hard to say what this person needed without seeing or knowing what has been administered previously. At 14 in America provided the child is up to date on all immunizations the only thing that would be needed is the annual flu vaccine. The catch-up schedule for a 14-year-old that hasn't had vaccinations or was unsure and from another country would be as follows:

- PCV13 if no history of PCV13 or PPSV23, 1 dose of PCV13 now and then a dose of PPSV at least 8 weeks later.
- MMR and Varicella can be given together as 1 combination shot called MMRV (Proquad) 2 dose series at least 4 weeks apart.
- Hep A 2 dose series at least 6 months apart
- Hep B 3 dose series second dose to be given 4 weeks after the first and the third dose given 8 weeks after the second and at least 16 weeks from the first dose.
- TDAP 1 single dose
- Then finally the influenza immunization can be given yearly.

All of this for a total of 6 shots. Six all at once is a lot. Would they be given all at once or split up? Maybe 3 or 4 now then in a week or so give the others?