

MA-111 Medical Assisting Lab I

Critical Thinking 5

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1. Identify the types of drapes used in the medical office and what are their specific use?

Incise drape: Has an adhesive area that can be applied directly to the patients skin, laparoscopy

drape: used for abdominoperineal resection with the patient in lithotomy position Laparotomy

drape: placed over the surgical site on the abdomen, back or comparable area, Leggings: a rectangle shaped draped closed on two sides to form a tent-like pocket, Lithotomy drape: Fits over the body to expose only the perineal area. Minor sheet, $\frac{3}{4}$ sheet: Used under an arm to cover an arm board for shoulder, axillary, arm or hand procedures, plain sheet: used to extend the sterile field, Split sheet: A u-shaped draped used on extremity or head procedures, Stockinette: used to cover an extremity, Thyroid sheet: fenestration is transverse or diamond shaped and is positioned closer to the head end of the drape.

2. Describe the process of Autoclaving instruments. Length of time, temperature etc.

When you are using the autoclave, the temperature must be at 250-255 degrees Fahrenheit. No organism can last at that temperature for more than 15 minutes. Unwrapped items are sterilized for 20 minutes, small wrapped items for 30 minutes. Processing time starts after the autoclave reaches normal operating conditions of 250 and 15 cycles for different materials, ambulatory care facilities do not autoclave liquids or dressing material, so the most used cycle will be the gravity cycle which is used to sterilize stainless steel instruments.

In general, unwrapped items are sterilized for 20 minutes, small wrapped items for 30 minutes =, and large or tightly wrapped items for 40 minutes. Processing time starts after the autoclave reaches normal operating conditions of 250 degrees Fahrenheit and 15 cycles for different materials. When the cycle is complete, a valve opens, and the chamber rapidly returns to atmospheric pressure. Drying time may be added to the end of the cycle.

3. Why must instruments be cleaned while being submerged in water/solution?

To prevent the possibility of blood or other materials contaminating other instruments.

4. Why do physicians use local anesthetics that contain epinephrine, what effect does the patient feel and when is it NOT appropriate to use lidocaine with epi?

When using anesthetics that contain epinephrine, the numbing effects of the medication actually lasts longer. It also can minimize bleeding. It is not appropriate to use lidocaine with epinephrine on fingers or toes because it causes vasoconstriction at the site, which minimizes blood flow, decreasing circulation which can delay healing.

5. What conditions are necessary for absorbable sutures to be effective?

Healing time- sutures naturally started to be absorbed by the body at certain timelines. Depending on the material that the suture is made from will determine how long a absorbable suture will remain within a tissue. Some start being absorbed by the body around 3 week and some longer. When using absorbable sutures, the physician/surgeon must take into consideration what the estimated healing time is.

6. Why is it important to expect all surgical instrumentation and when is it inspected?

It is important to inspect all surgical instruments to make sure that they are functioning properly and that they are visibly clean. The instruments should be visibly inspected when they come out of the autoclave and upon receiving new instruments. When you receive new instruments, you should inspect them for any pits or damage that could have happened in the shipping process. You should make sure that they move correctly and if they have any moving parts you should make sure all these parts work properly.

7. How are suture material sized and what suture would be used for a facial laceration and which one for a knee scope closure?

Suture material is sized based on its diameter. The suture size that you should for a facial laceration would be monofilament non-absorbable suture. Monofilament synthetic sutures have the lowest rate of infection. The suture size that you should use for a knee scope closure would be 4:0 or sometimes 3:0 (if more strength is required) is used on the trunk or extremity.