MA-212 Medical Assisting Lab IV

Critical Thinking Week 5

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1. Why does the provider need sputum to come from the lung and not saliva from the mouth? How do you collect this sputum and why?

Sputum is needed from the lungs to test for a bacteria or a virus for diagnosis of infectious respiratory disease. To collect sputum inhale two to three times, breathing out hard each time then cough deeply to bring up the sputum. Put the sputum in a container without oral secretion. THe secretion may alter the specimen.

2. How would you answer a patient who asks you what a pulse oximetry is for and what is shows?

A pulse oximeter measures the oxygen saturation of the blood and displays the results in a percentage. It also displays your pulse rate.

3. Explain the difference between the two different types of TB.

Latent TB infection the person cannot spread the TB bacteria and has no signs or symptoms. TB disease a person can spread the disease by droplets. The symptoms include cough lasting 3 weeks or more, pain in the chest, fatigue, blood in sputum, no appetite, chills, and fever.

4. Why do patients with COPD use smaller amounts of supplemental oxygen?

Patients with COPD would receive low level oxygen since their lungs are already damaged and are not able to fully inhale. The supplemental oxygen is need to boost the percentage of oxygen they inhale.

5. What are the signs of respiratory distress in a patient with asthma?

Using accessory muscles to get air into the lungs is a sign of respiratory distress.

6. How would you explain the use of the Peak Flow meter to your patient and what information does it give the patient?

A peak flow meter measures the amount of air exhaled. Normal readings for an adult are between 400 and 700 L/min. Older adults may have lower readings that are normal for them. I would explain to the patient that they will need to make sure they have nothing in their mouth and to remove their dentures if they have them. In a seated position with their back straight, take a deep breath in put mouth piece in their mouth and use their lips to secure it making a complete seal. Then blow out the air as hard and fast as they can. Record the number next to the indicator and repeat the test 2 more times recording the number after each test.