MA-212 Medical Assisting Lab IV

Critical Thinking 3

Name: Abagail Hyson Date:11/22/2020

1. Identify the types of drapes used in the medical office and what are their specific use?- There are two types of drapes, the first is a non-fenestrated drape. A non-fenestrated drape is placed over the mayo stand to begin the sterile field. The instruments are placed on top of the non-fenestrated drape to protect them from the mayo stand. If the sterile field has to be left, another non-fenestrated drape is placed over the top, blue to blue, so instruments remain sterile. The next type is a fenestrated drape and this is placed over patients. The fenestrated drape has a hole in it to expose the area where the procedure would take place. The fenestrated drape comes in different sizes to allow for different size amounts of skin to be exposed.The drape acts as a barrier to the surrounding skin, but also allows for a clear view of the area where the procedure will take place.
2. What is the purpose of understanding the different types and materials, lengths and whether a needle is swaged or not when considering suture use.- The purpose of having an understanding of the difference between the materials is being able to decipher which material would benefit your patient. For example, having an understanding that suture size is read 6-0 and the size of that particular suture would be more beneficial in the facial area versus the elbow or knee where there is more tension and the suture would be more likely to rip. With that being said, a swaged needle is when the suture material is manufactured to the needle. Essentially this style would be used more to repair minor injuries to the skin.

3.Explain the purpose of why it is important to know what materials are used and lot and expiration dates for supplies, for documentation purposes. Why do I want or need to document lot and expiration for packing material, lidocaine, formalin ECT?- For documentation purposes, it is important to give all information possible. If something were to happen such as an infection acquired after the surgery, or a reaction to something used during the procedure, you are able to look back at the note and see what was used. Lot and expiration are also important because we don’t want to use out of date supplies. Using out of date medications can be really harmful to the patient. As for lot and expiration date of supplies, such as formalin, it can be crucial that it is within date because the specimen collected needs to be preserved well enough to be able to be tested. That could mean life or death for a patient. Packing material that is used after its date could lose its integrity and not work as well for the patient, and this could lead to infection at the site.

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?- Physicians use local anesthetics containing Epinephrine because it is used in vascular areas, because epinephrine causes vasoconstriction. When vasoconstriction occurs, there is less bleeding at the site. Epinephrine is not used in areas that could affect fingers and toes. Vasoconstriction reduces the amount of blood circulating to extremities and could

cause problems when the healing process begins. When local anesthetics with epinephrine is used, the patient will feel a temporary numbed feeling to the site of the procedure. The local anesthetic blocks the generation and conduction of nerve impulses, meaning the pain is blocked during the procedure.

5.What conditions are necessary for absorbable sutures to be effective?- Absorbable sutures are used when sutures need to be placed in areas where the removal of the sutures would be difficult. They are also used in deep incisions or lacerations that require the sutures to be placed in the inner layers of the laceration or incision. The reason we are able to place these sutures in inner layers is because the sutures are dissolved by enzymes in the body. The sutures that have been used in recent years are Dexon, PDS, and Maxon. Before, Catgut sutures, made of sheep, cattle or pig intestines were used. The reason we began using materials such as Dexon, PDS, and Maxon is because they have more integrity and the wound heals more before the materials are absorbed by the enzymes.

6.Why is it important to expect all surgical instrumentation and when is it inspected?- All surgical instruments should be inspected to ensure that the instrument is clean. When I say clean, I mean that we are trying to obtain a level of surgical asepsis. Surgical asepsis is when instruments that will come in contact with the surgical site are sterilized, this includes whatever drapes, gowns and gloves that may be used during the procedure. The idea behind sterilizing instruments is to reduce the risk of spreading whatever infection may be present. We DO NOT want to cross contaminate anything, including any type of bodily fluid and that is why it is incredibly important to inspect surgical instruments.

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 measured in diameters and lengths. The diameter of the suture is what determines the size. Small gauged strands are numbered below zero (Ex: 6-0) and the larger gauged strands are numbered zero and above (ex: 1). For a facial laceration, I would probably use 5-0 or a 6-0 because they are the smallest sized sutures. With a facial laceration, you want the laceration to close well with little scarring and with larger sutures, there will be noticeable scaring. With a knee scope closure, I would probably use a larger suture such as a zero or a one because the knee holds a lot of tension. Stri-strips may even be necessary because of the tension on the knee.