Child Maltreatment Practice Questions

1. A 3-month-old infant presents to the Emergency Department with subdural and retinal hemorrhages but no external signs of trauma, and dies after arriving. What would the nurse suspect?

   A. Poisoning
   B. Abusive head trauma
   C. Sudden infant death syndrome
   D. Congenital neurologic disease

2. What is the most important criterion on which to base the decision to report suspected child abuse?

   A. Inappropriate parental concern for the degree of injury
   B. Absence of parents for questioning about the child's injuries
   C. Inappropriate response of the child
   D. Incompatibility between the history and injury observed

3. Which are common characteristics of those who sexually abuse children? Select all that apply.
   A. Pressure the victim into secrecy
   B. Are usually unemployed and unmarried
   C. Typically a man whom the victim knows
   D. Have many victims that are abused once only
   E. Typically have a poor criminal record

4. The nurse is teaching a parenting class on Child Abuse prevention. What parental characteristics should she include, that can increase the risk of abuse? Select all that apply.
   A. Their "parenting imprint"
   B. Middle class
   C. College education
   D. Nuclear families
   E. High self-esteem
   F. Inadequate support systems
   G. Has difficulty controlling anger and aggression
   H. Substance abuse
   I. Older aged parents
   J. Socially isolated

Child Maltreatment Practice Question Answers

1. A 3-month-old infant presents to the Emergency Department with subdural and retinal hemorrhages but no external signs of trauma and dies after arriving. What would the nurse suspect?

   A. Poisoning
   B. Abusive head trauma
   C. Sudden infant death syndrome
   D. Congenital neurologic disease

   Rationale:

   The correct answer is B. These are classic signs of Abusive Head Trauma or Shaken-baby Syndrome. Poisoning, SIDS and congenial neurologic disorders would not present this way.

2. What is the most important criterion on which to base the decision to report suspected child abuse?

   A. Inappropriate parental concern for the degree of injury
   B. Absence of parents for questioning about the child's injuries
   C. Inappropriate response of the child
   D. Incompatibility between the history and injury observed

   Rationale:

   The correct answer is D. When the injury does not fit with the history, it is considered a "red flag" of suspected abuse. Inappropriate response of the caregiver or child may be present but are more subjective. The parents and child should be questioned as well as the child to look for inconsistencies in the history as well conflicting histories.

3. Which are common characteristics of those who sexually abuse children? Select all that apply.
   A. Pressure the victim into secrecy
   B. Are usually unemployed and unmarried
   C. Typically, a man whom the victim knows
   D. Have many victims that are abused once only
   E. Typically have a poor criminal record

Rationale:

The correct answers are A and C. The perpetrator typically pressures the victim into not telling others by offering them gifts or telling them that there will be negative consequences if they tell. They are also often someone the victim knows, often a family member.

4. The nurse is teaching a parenting class on Child Abuse prevention. What parental characteristics should she include, that can increase the risk of abuse? Select all that apply.
   A. Their "parenting imprint"
   B. Middle class
   C. College education
   D. Nuclear families
   E. High self-esteem
   F. Inadequate support systems
   G. Has difficulty controlling anger and aggression
   H. Substance abuse
   I. Older aged parents
   J. Socially isolated

Rationale:

The correct answers are A, F, G, H, and J. The other options are incorrect because the other parental characteristics include low-income families, parents with little education, single-parent families with or without an unrelated partner, low self-esteem, and younger parents.

ATI Nursing Education Content Mastery Series Review Modules –

RN Nursing Care of Children Edition 10.0

Hockenberry, M. J., Wilson, D. & Rodgers, C.C. (2022). *Wong's essentials of pediatric nursing* (11th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Mosby/Elsevier.