

## Basic Concepts II: Aging, Health Care, and Society

### Test Bank

#### Multiple Choice

1. Which of the following is one of the most prevalent chronic diseases of old age?

- a. arthritis
- b. osteoporosis
- c. Parkinson's disease
- d. cancer
- e. cardiovascular disease

Ans: a

Answer Location: Arthritis

Difficulty Level: Medium

2. \_\_\_\_\_ is the chief government program that pays for health care for older Americans.

- a. Medicaid
- b. Medicare
- c. Social Security
- d. The Older Americans Act
- e. none of these

Ans: b

Answer Location: Reimbursement Systems

Difficulty Level: Easy

3. Medicare covers about \_\_\_\_\_ percent of the out-of-pocket medical expenses of older people.

- a. 10
- b. 25
- c. 50
- d. 80
- e. 100

Ans: c

Answer Location: Reimbursement Systems

Difficulty Level: Medium

4. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the private health insurance policies that older people may purchase to supplement their Medicare coverage.

- a. Medicaid
- b. Medicare Part A
- c. Medicare Part B
- d. Medigap

e. prospective payment policies

Ans: d

Answer Location: Reimbursement Systems

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. The majority of Medicare dollars go to which of the following?

a. nursing homes

b. hospitals

c. physicians

d. home health agencies

e. none of these

Ans: b

Answer Location: Reimbursement Systems

Difficulty Level: Medium

6. In 1983, Congress responded to the high costs of hospital care under Medicare Part A by introducing \_\_\_\_\_.

a. the resource-based relative value scale

b. the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act

c. Medigap policies

d. the prospective payment system

e. none of these

Ans: d

Answer Location: Reimbursement Systems

Difficulty Level: Hard

7. The lowest rate of suicide in the United States occurs among which of the following groups?

a. younger black men

b. older black men

c. young white men

d. older white men

e. none of these

Ans: e

Answer Location: Late Life Suicide

Difficulty Level: Medium

8. Among all people over age 65, about \_\_\_\_\_ percent are in nursing homes at any given time.

a. 5

b. 10

c. 24

d. 40

e. 50

Ans: a

Answer Location: Chronic Care in Old Age

Difficulty Level: Easy

9. A multidimensional functional assessment involves which of the following?

- a. a thorough physical exam
- b. a full examination of physical, mental, and social conditions
- c. an older adult's economic and social resources
- d. both a and c
- e. both b and c

Ans: e

Answer Location: Functional Assessment

Difficulty Level: Medium

10. The highest rate of suicide in the United States occurs among which of the following groups?

- a. younger black men
- b. older black men
- c. young white men
- d. older white men
- e. older white women

Ans: d

Answer Location: Late Life Suicide

Difficulty Level: Easy

11. Precursors of late life suicide include which of the following:

- a. loneliness and social isolation
- b. diminished economic resources
- c. the presence of illness or disability
- d. depression
- e. all of these

Ans: e

Answer Location: Late Life Suicide

Difficulty Level: Easy

12. What percentage of older adults surveyed in multiple studies conducted by AARP say that they'd prefer to remain in their own homes and "age in place"?

- a. 50%
- b. 90%
- c. 100%
- d. 25%
- e. none of these

Ans: b

Answer Location: Housing for Older Adults

Difficulty Level: Hard

## True/False

1. Evidence from biology indicates that maximum life span is genetically determined and thus fixed for each species.

Ans: T

Answer Location: Longevity and Disease

Difficulty Level: Medium

2. Aging is not a life-long process but something that only happens after maturity.

Ans: F

Answer Location: Normal Aging

Difficulty Level: Medium

3. The majority of people over age 65 need assistance with activities of daily living.

Ans: F

Answer Location: Chronic Care in Old Age

Difficulty Level: Medium

4. Today, older people are more likely to die from infectious diseases, such as influenza or pneumonia, than from chronic diseases, such as heart disease or cancer.

Ans: F

Answer Location: Epidemiology of Aging

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Chronic illness is much more common among the old than among the young.

Ans: T

Answer Location: Major Diseases of Old Age

Difficulty Level: Easy

6. Dementia is characteristic of normal aging.

Ans: F

Answer Location: Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease

Difficulty Level: Medium

7. It is thought that both genetic and environmental factors contribute to Alzheimer's disease.

Ans: T

Answer Location: Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease

Difficulty Level: Medium

8. Once someone is admitted to a nursing home, he or she is likely to remain there for the rest of his or her life.

Ans: F

Answer Location: Chronic Care in Old Age

Difficulty Level: Hard

9. Advances in medical technology are largely responsible for the large drop in mortality rates that occurred at the beginning of the 20th century.

Ans: F

Answer Location: Reimbursement Systems

Difficulty Level: Hard

10. Two thirds of all dementias are of the Alzheimer's type.

Ans: T

Answer Location: Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease

Difficulty Level: Medium

11. The term *long-term care* covers health care and social services for those who need extensive help with daily life because of a chronic illness or condition.

Ans: T

Answer Location: Long Term Care

Difficulty Level: Easy

12. Declines in mortality rates always lead to declines in morbidity rates

Ans: F

Answer Location: Longevity and Disease

Difficulty Level: Medium

13. Long-term care costs are projected to increase dramatically in the 21st century.

Ans: T

Answer Location: Paying for Long Term Care: An American Dilemma

Difficulty Level: Easy

14. Only a small percentage of those over age 60 report feeling "very confident" or "somewhat confident" about maintaining a high quality of life as they grow older.

Ans: F

Answer Location: Late Life Suicide

Difficulty Level: Medium

## Essay

1. How did Jonathan Swift (*Gulliver's Travels*, 1726) characterize the Struldbrugs, and how does this characterization assist in our understanding of the possible implications of population aging?

Ans: Varies

Answer Location: The Case of the Struldbrugs

Difficulty Level: Medium

2. Describe the strengths and weaknesses of the Medicare program. What could be done to strengthen the Medicare program?

Ans: Varies

Answer Location: Reimbursement Systems

Difficulty Level: Hard

3. Describe the variety of senior housing options that are available today. If you wished to continue living in your own home as long as possible but your health needs were increasing, which option would you prefer? Explain.

Ans: Varies

Answer Location: Housing for Older Adults

Difficulty Level: Medium

4. How does the concept “continuum of care” assist in our understanding the diverse needs among the older adult population? To what extent is the long-term care service system in the United States a “continuum of care”?

Ans: Varies

Answer Location: The Continuum of Care

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Describe the options that are available for dealing with the Struldbrug problem, that is, a prolonged period of frailty and dependency at the end of life. What are the benefits and drawbacks of each option? Which option would you support, and why?

Ans: Varies

Answer Location: The Case of the Struldbugs

Difficulty Level: Medium

6. What challenges might our society face with respect to long-term care if all diseases were eliminated?

Ans: Varies

Answer Location: Providing Long-Term Care

Difficulty Level: Medium

7. Many people fear the prospect of having to live in a nursing home. Discuss some reasons for this prevalent fear, whether or not this fear is realistic, and the conditions under which living in such a setting may be appropriate.

Ans: Varies

Answer Location: Chronic Care in Old Age

Difficulty Level: Hard