

Adult Health

Test Bank

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. The nurse reviews the health record of a client with melasma. The nurse would anticipate that this client will exhibit:
 1. Skin that is uniformly dark in color
 2. Very pale skin with little pigmentation
 3. Patches of skin that have loss of pigmentation
 4. Blotchy brown macules across the cheeks and forehead

ANS: 4

Rationale: Melasma is a condition caused by hormonal influences on melanin production and is noted by the appearance of blotchy brown macules across the cheeks and forehead. "Skin that is uniformly dark in color" describes vitiligo. "Very pale skin with little pigmentation" and "patches of skin that have loss of pigmentation" refer to normal variations in skin color.

Test-Taking Strategy: To answer this question correctly, you must be familiar with the various terms used when discussing skin structures and functions. "Skin that is uniformly dark in color" describes vitiligo. "Very pale skin with little pigmentation" and "patches of skin that have loss of pigmentation" refer to normal variations in skin color. Review the description of melasma if you had difficulty with this question.

PTS: 1

DIF: Level of Cognitive Ability: Understanding

REF: Black, J., & Hawks, J. (2009). Medical-surgical nursing: clinical management for positive outcomes (8th ed.). St. Louis: Saunders.

OBJ: Client Needs: Physiological Integrity



TOP: Content Area: Adult Health/Integumentary

MSC: Integrated Process: Nursing Process—Assessment

2. The client with cellulitis of the lower leg has had cultures done on the affected area. The nurse reviewing the results of the culture report interprets that which of the following organisms is not part of the normal flora of the skin?
1. *Escherichia coli*
 2. *Candida albicans*
 3. *Staphylococcus aureus*
 4. *Staphylococcus epidermidis*

ANS: 1

Rationale: *E. coli* is normally found in the intestines and is a common source of infection of wounds and the urinary system. *C. albicans*, *S. aureus*, and *S. epidermis* are part of the normal flora of the skin.

Test-Taking Strategy: To answer this question correctly, you must be familiar with the normal microorganisms that inhabit the skin. Note that the question asks for the organism that is not part of normal flora. Remember that *E. coli* is normally found in the intestines. Review basic skin structures if you had difficulty with this question.

PTS: 1

DIF: Level of Cognitive Ability: Understanding

REF: Ignatavicius, D., & Workman, M. (2010). Medical-surgical nursing: patient-centered collaborative care (6th ed.). St. Louis: Saunders.

OBJ: Client Needs: Physiological Integrity

TOP: Content Area: Adult Health/Integumentary

MSC: Integrated Process: Nursing Process—Assessment

3. The client complains of chronic pruritus. Which of the following diagnoses would the nurse expect to support this client's complaint?
1. Anemia
 2. Renal failure



3. Hypothyroidism
4. Diabetes mellitus

ANS: 2

Rationale: Clients with renal failure often have pruritus, or itchy skin. This is because of impaired clearance of waste products by the kidneys. The client who is markedly anemic is likely to have pale skin. Hypothyroidism may lead to complaints of dry skin. Clients with diabetes mellitus are at risk for skin infections and skin breakdown.

Test-Taking Strategy: Focus on the subject, chronic pruritus. Remember that clients with renal failure often experience this problem. If this question was difficult, review the common causes of pruritus.

PTS: 1

DIF: Level of Cognitive Ability: Understanding

REF: Ignatavicius, D., & Workman, M. (2010). Medical-surgical nursing: patient-centered collaborative care (6th ed.). St. Louis: Saunders.

OBJ: Client Needs: Physiological Integrity

TOP: Content Area: Adult Health/Integumentary

MSC: Integrated Process: Nursing Process—Assessment

4. A client being seen in an ambulatory clinic for an unrelated complaint has a butterfly rash noted across the nose. The nurse interprets that this finding is consistent with early manifestations of which of the following disorders?
 1. Hyperthyroidism
 2. Pernicious anemia
 3. Cardiopulmonary disorders
 4. Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE)

ANS: 4



Rationale: An early sign of SLE is the appearance of a butterfly rash across the nose. Hyperthyroidism often leads to moist skin and increased perspiration. Pernicious anemia is exhibited by pale skin. Severe cardiopulmonary disorders may lead to clubbing of the fingers.

Test-Taking Strategy: To answer this question accurately, you must be familiar with the impact of systemic conditions on the skin. Remember that SLE causes a characteristic butterfly rash. If this question was difficult, review the disorders identified in the options and the associated skin conditions that occur in each disorder.

PTS: 1

DIF: Level of Cognitive Ability: Understanding

REF: Ignatavicius, D., & Workman, M. (2010). Medical-surgical nursing: patient-centered collaborative care (6th ed.). St. Louis: Saunders.

OBJ: Client Needs: Physiological Integrity

TOP: Content Area: Adult Health/Integumentary

MSC: Integrated Process: Nursing Process—Assessment

5. The nurse notes that the older adult client has a number of bright, ruby-colored, round lesions scattered on the trunk and thighs. The nurse correctly interprets the finding as alterations in blood vessels of the skin and defines them as:
1. Purpura
 2. Venous star
 3. Cherry angioma
 4. Spider angioma

ANS: 3

Rationale: A cherry angioma occurs with increasing age and has no clinical significance. It is noted by the appearance of small, bright, ruby-colored round lesions on the trunk and/or extremities. Purpura results from hemorrhage into the skin. A venous star results from increased pressure in veins, usually in the lower legs, and has an irregularly shaped bluish center with radiating branches. Spider angiomas have a bright red center, with legs that radiate outward. These are commonly seen in those with liver disease or vitamin B deficiency, although they can occur occasionally without underlying pathology.



Test-Taking Strategy: To answer this question accurately, you must be familiar with the various alterations in vascularity that can occur in the skin. Note the relationship of the words “ruby” in the question and “cherry” in the correct option. If you had difficulty with this question, review the various skin alterations identified in each of the options.

PTS: 1

DIF: Level of Cognitive Ability: Understanding

REF: Ignatavicius, D., & Workman, M. (2010). Medical-surgical nursing: patient-centered collaborative care (6th ed.). St. Louis: Saunders.

OBJ: Client Needs: Physiological Integrity

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MSC: Integrated Process: Nursing Process—Assessment

6. The client has been diagnosed with paronychia. The nurse understands that this is a disorder of the:
1. Nails
 2. Hair follicles
 3. Pilosebaceous glands
 4. Epithelial layer of skin

ANS: 1

Rationale: Paronychia is a fungal infection that is most often caused by *Candida albicans*. This results in inflammation of the nail fold, with separation of the fold from the nail plate. The area is generally tender to touch, with purulent drainage. Disorders of the hair follicles include folliculitis, furuncles, and carbuncles. Disorders of the pilosebaceous glands include acne vulgaris and seborrheic dermatitis. There are a variety of disorders involving the epithelial skin.

Test-Taking Strategy: To answer this question accurately, you must be familiar with a variety of skin disorders and their causes. Remember that paronychia is a nail disorder. If this question was difficult, review the characteristics of paronychia.

PTS: 1

DIF: Level of Cognitive Ability: Understanding

REF: Ignatavicius, D., & Workman, M. (2010). Medical-surgical nursing: patient-centered collaborative care (6th ed.). St. Louis: Saunders.

