

Gerontology
Summer 2002
word for word the same
as Q 1-39

Not Graded

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TEMPLE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY
Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology,
Medicine and Surgery

Dental Gerontology
Summer 2003

Course Director:
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Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8 - 8:50
Timmons Hall

Final Examination

1. If we define the older market as people aged 50 and older, then one in four Americans presently belongs to this group.

☒ A. T
B. F

2. Which of the following age groups is growing the fastest?

A. 19-24
B. 25-35
C. 45-65
D. 65-85
☒ E. 85 and older

42% ↑ in last 10 yrs

12.7% of US is <65 will ↑ to 20% by 2020
line 1 in 5

3. Less than 35% of the elderly people aged 65 and older, who are not in institutions are functionally limited in some way, according to the Census Bureau.

☒ A. T
☒ B. F

4. Today, we see unprecedented rates of tooth retention in the elderly population. In 1986, the rate of tooth retention was at 40%. In a study completed in 1990, the rate of tooth retention approached 80%.

☒ A. T
B. F

5. Although the elderly are the fastest growing segment of our population, they remain the poorest segment of our society.

☒ A. T
B. F

6. Although the elderly population accounts for 13% of our population, they currently consume 37% of all prescription medications.

☒ A. T
☐ B. F

7. Alzheimer's Disease is an age related clinical syndrome characterized by progressive impairments in a wide spectrum of cognitive abilities including memory, language, judgment, and abstract reasoning.

☒ A. T
☐ B. F

8. Approximately 12% of the population at age 65, and up to 25% of the population at age 80 will be affected by Alzheimer's Disease.

☒ A. T
☐ B. F

9. There are currently a number of highly effective pharmacologic therapies for Alzheimer's Disease.

☒ A. T
☐ B. F

10. Treatment efforts in Alzheimer's Disease are generally care oriented, as opposed to cure oriented.

☒ A. T
☐ B. F

11. It is common practice to describe Alzheimer's Disease in four stages. Those stages are: Early, Middle, Advanced, and Terminal.

☒ A. T
☐ B. F

- T
12. Characteristics of Early Stage of Alzheimer's Disease include Forgetfulness, Personality Changes, Difficulty with Employment Performance, Social Withdrawal, Apathy, and Neglect of Personal Hygiene.
- A. T
B. F
13. Characteristics of Middle Stage Alzheimer's Disease include Disorientation, Loss of Coordination, Restlessness, Anxiety, Language Difficulty, and Progressive Memory Loss.
- A. T
B. F
- T
14. Characteristics of Advanced Stage of Alzheimer's Disease include Profound Comprehension Difficulty, Gait Disturbances, Bladder and Bowl Incontinence, Aggression, and Inability to recognize Family Members.
- A. T
B. F
- T
15. Characteristics of Terminal Stage of Alzheimer's Disease include Physical Immobility, Contractures, Dysphagia, Emaciation, Pathological Reflexes, and Total Helplessness.
- A. T
B. F
- F
16. It is not appropriate to involve family members in home care instructions to the Early Stage Alzheimer's patients. This is true because the dental professional always wants to develop independent oral hygiene skills on the part of the patient.
- A. T
B. F
- T
17. When Early Stage Alzheimer's patients present to the dental office for care, the practitioner should immediately begin thinking of developing an aggressive program of oral hygiene.
- A. T
B. F

- T
18. Senile Dementia is a disorder of cognition that affects older patients.
- A. T
B. F
19. Like Alzheimer's Disease, Senile Dementia is poorly understood neurological disease process.
- A. T
B. F
20. There is no definitive diagnostic test that confirms the diagnosis of Senile Dementia.
- A. T
B. F
21. The clinical progression of Senile Dementia closely follows the progression of Alzheimer's Disease. There are four stages: Early Middle, Advanced, and Terminal.
- A. T
B. F
22. Patients in the early stage of Senile Dementia will often be cooperative for dental care. As the disease progresses, patients tend to become more uncooperative.
- A. T
B. F
23. It is very important to understand the progression of the disease process for patients with Alzheimer's Disease and Senile Dementia. This insight will help the dental practitioner to develop an appropriate treatment plan for these patients.
- A. T
B. F
24. It is very important for the dental practitioner to understand that patients with Alzheimer's Disease or Senile Dementia will lose their physical coordination with the progression of their disease. This fact must be taken into consideration when designing dental prostheses e.g. the path of insertion of partial dentures.
- A. T
B. F
- T

25. Xerostomia is a frequent finding in older patients.

- ☒ A. T
B. F

~ 20% of older pts

26. One of the leading causes of Xerostomia is the number of prescription medications that cause xerostomia as a common side effect.

- ☒ A. T
B. F

H+N radiation

27. Some of the more common types of medication that cause xerostomia as a side effect is/are:

- A. anti-anxiety agents
B. anorexiant
C. antihypertensives
D. all of the above
E. none of the above

28. A problem with medications and the elderly that often lead to morbidity and adverse effects is drug compliance. The literature supports the contention that approximately 50% of all outpatients fail to take prescribed medications properly.

- A. T
B. F

29. As we age, the body undergoes changes that influence how drugs are absorbed, distributed, metabolized, and cleared.

- ☒ A. T
B. F

30. Another factor implicated in altered drug absorption in the elderly relates to the decreased number of absorbing cells.

- A. T
B. F

31. Protein binding is a significant factor in drug distribution. Many drugs are highly protein bound to the albumin fraction in plasma. Because only the free or unbound component of a drug exerts pharmacological effects, a decrease in albumin predisposes the patient to adverse drug effects.

- A. T
B. F

32. Blood supply is yet another factor influencing drug distribution. This is because blood flow decreases to the kidneys, and the intestines with age.

- A. T
- B. F

33. Organic Brain Syndrome is a state manifested by cognitive, intellectual, or memory dysfunction, caused by an insult of sufficient magnitude to key areas of the cerebral cortex.

- A. T
- B. F

34. Persons needing a pureed diet should be advised to:

- A. Select smooth-consistency foods from all the food groups
- B. Take a liquid nutritional supplement daily
- C. Only eat baby foods
- B. Include soup at each meal

35. Research has shown that wound healing in the geriatric patient is slower than in a young adult patient.

- A. True
- B. False

36. Cementum attachment to the underlying dentine strengthens with increasing age

- A. True
- B. False

Walter is a 52 YO Caucasian male. Medical Hx is significant for hypertension and hypercholesterolemia. His medical condition is well controlled with medications and he sees his physician regularly. Walter presents for emergency care complaining of pain in tooth #19. Radiographic evaluation reveals moderate occlusal decay that is obviously restorable with a conservative intra-coronal restoration. Walter insists on having the tooth extracted, claiming that he does not want to risk a "Root Canal."

37. As a practitioner who practices ethically, you could find yourself in an ethical dilemma with respect to Walter's case. Name the ethical dilemma from the following choices:

- A. Nonmaleficence vs. Justice
- B. Veracity vs. Fidelity
- C. Autonomy vs. Veracity
- D. Beneficence vs. Autonomy
- E. Mohammed Ali vs. "Smokin" Joe Frasier 1974
(The Rumble in the Jungle)

38. What three (3) questions should you always ask a diabetic patient prior to providing dental care?

Select the incorrect answer

- A. Did you take your medicine?
- B. Did you eat today?
- C. How do you feel?
- ☒ D. Have you been to Club Envy, yet?

39. Why is it important to ask patients to show you all of the medicine bottles prior to dental treatment?

- A. Many older patients share medications.
- B. Many patients take herbal remedies and "Over the Counter" medications and do not consider them "medicines".
- C. Many older patients have similar classification medications prescribed by multiple physicians.
- D. All of the above.

Level III

pt consent may be needed to give info to 3rd party

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Mr. Lopez is a 76-year-old Hispanic male. Mr. Lopez is a widower who lives with his daughter. His medical history is significant for Multi Infarct Dementia, Hypertension and Type II Diabetes. He is classified with a Level III disability including gait impairment (he uses a wheelchair and needs assistance transferring into and out of the wheelchair) and receptive aphasia (he hears the words but cannot process your requests appropriately). Mr. Lopez's gait disturbance includes a Hemiplegia on the Right side. He holds his Right arm loosely at his side and is unable to use this limb for any productive purpose. In your interview with the patient, you determine that prior to his "strokes" Mr. Lopez was right hand dominant.

Question 40: Is Mr. Lopez "covered" under the Americans with Disabilities act? Choose the most correct answer.

- A. No. Mr. Lopez is able to accommodate to his medical/cognitive impairments with the assistance of his daughter.
- B. No. Mr. Lopez does not meet the "threshold" criteria for inclusion under the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- ☒ C. Yes. Mr. Lopez qualifies because he has "a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities."
- D. Yes. Living with an adult child (in Mr. Lopez's case his daughter) qualifies anyone for protection under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Question 41: Without any further discussions of Mr. Lopez's medical conditions, what alterations of dental treatment do you feel might be appropriate?

- A. Extra time.
- B. Special concerns regarding equipment.
- C. Concerns regarding the patient's physical response to routine dental treatment(s).
- ☒ D. All of the above

Question 42: It is apparent to you that Mr. Lopez is unable to understand your explanations of proposed dental care. As such, you feel that it is important to include Mr. Lopez's daughter in your discussions. Choose the most correct answer.

- A. Include the daughter in your discussions. She is a "blood relative" and is expected to act in the best interest of her father.
- B. Include the daughter in your discussions. She provides transportation and "pays the bills." As the person paying for the care, she has a right to be included in discussions that commit Mr. Lopez's finances.
- C. Do not include the daughter. Mr. Lopez is your patient and his daughter has no right to be included in personal treatment decisions. The only exception is
- D. Ask Mr. Lopez's permission to include his daughter in conversations regarding his dental care. If Mr. Lopez agrees to include his daughter, she can enter the discussions, if he refuses, she must be excluded.

Question 43: Assuming Mr. Lopez agrees to include his daughter in decisions regarding proposed treatment(s). Choose the most correct answer.

You can now feel comfortable discussing Mr. Lopez's dental care with the daughter without Mr. Lopez present for the discussions.

- ☒ Although Mr. Lopez has requested that his daughter be included in the conversations regarding his dental care, you are obligated to direct your conversation to Mr. Lopez and continue to ask his approval for proposed dental care.

Question 44. In your initial interview with Mr. Lopez, you discover that prior to his strokes he was right hand dominant and he now has a right side Hemiplegia. As a thoughtful dental practitioner, you realize that any dental treatment you provide can only function correctly if it is properly maintained. It is important that you evaluate your patient's home care skills (toothbrushing and the appropriate use of dental floss). Choose the most correct answer.

- A. Ask Mr. Lopez if his daughter can be included in your assessment of his toothbrushing/flossing abilities.
- B. Ask the patient to demonstrate toothbrushing technique for you by handing him a toothbrush and observing him while he brushes his teeth.
- C. You may find the use of "adjunctive aids" helpful for this patient i.e.: an electric toothbrush.
- D. Even with the use of adjunctive aids, your patient may require assistance. Assuming Mr. Lopez agreed to include his daughter in this assessment, you may find it necessary to instruct his daughter to brush her father's teeth for him. If this is appropriate, give both Mr. Lopez and his daughter home care instructions.
- E. All of the above.

Question 45. How does receptive aphasia alter your treatment plan if at all?

- A. It does not alter the treatment plan. No additional information is needed.
- B. It does not alter the treatment plan. Dental disease remains the same and is not significantly impacted by receptive aphasia.
- C. It does alter the treatment plan. The most significant impact is on Informed Consent.
- D. It does alter the treatment plan. A right-hand dominant patient will have difficulty placing and removing a RPD.

46. With regard to diagnosing endodontic lesions in aging patients: Which of the following are true:

- A. Lower response to the EPT.
- B. Lower response to the cold test.
- C. False reactions to testing due to extensive restorations.
- D. A and C only
- E. All of the above

47. Which of the following would you expect to find in an aging pulp:

- A. Secondary dentin throughout the canal system and pulp chamber.
- B. Reparative dentin: in response to injury.
- C. Pulpal calcification. pulp stones.
- D. Sclerotic dentin: increased translucency.
- E. All of the above.

48. With regard to minority aging patients: The minority older population will triple by 2030. "

- A. True
- B. False

49. Although the older populations will increase among all racial and ethnic groups, the Hispanic older population is projected to grow the fastest, from about 2 million in 2000 to over 13 million by 2050.

- A. True
- B. False

50. Data from the 2000 Census projects that about one quarter of the elderly population will belong to a minority racial or ethnic group by the year 2030.

- A. True
- B. False

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Dental Gerontology (D534)
Competency Assessment
July 27, 2001

**COMPLIM
OF
ASIAN AMERIC**

Mrs. Harriet Jones, a 63-year-old African American female presents to your dental office as a new patient for comprehensive dental care.

SX (Social History): Mrs. Jones is married to Mr. James Jones for 41 years. She and her husband live in a single family home on the 3200 block of Oganz Street. Mrs. Jones is employed in the home as a Homemaker. Mr. Jones is a professor (with tenure) of literature at Beaver College (now known as Arcadia University). She has two adult children Betty, age 44, married to an Ophthalmologist with two children, and James Jr. James Jr. is 34, single and moves back home in-between jobs (he is a CPA, but "has trouble with bosses").

HX (Medical History): Mrs. Jones has a significant medical history as follows:

1. Two uncomplicated hospitalizations for childbirth.
2. One hospitalization at age 59 for a hysterectomy.
3. Mild Hypertension
4. Osteoarthritis
5. Type II Diabetes

Medication History:

1. Estrogen Replacement Therapy daily
2. Vasotec 10 mg daily
3. Glucophage 10 mg daily
4. Tylenol/Motrin pm (as needed for pain)

Dental Examination:

1. Intact dentition consisting of 28 teeth. Most of the posterior teeth have allo restorations.
2. Periodontal evaluation reveals Mild to Moderate generalized adult periodontal disease with generalized 4-5 mm pockets in the posterior quadrants.

Chief Complaint (CC): "I broke a tooth on the bottom right in the back."