

Medical Technology DANB-ICE

Dental Assisting National Board's (DANB) Infection Control
(ICE) exam

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Question: 1

What type of products are not intended for use with latex gloves due to their ability to break down the latex and compromise the effectiveness of the product?

- A. Antimicrobial surgical scrubs.
- B. Alcohol-based hand rubs.
- C. Petroleum-based products.
- D. Non-dental scented lotion products.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Petroleum-based products are not recommended for use in dentistry when used in conjunction with latex products, as the petroleum has the potential to break down the latex product making it less effective and increasing the chance for cross-contamination.

Question: 2

After used instruments are transferred to the instrument processing area and sorted, what is the next step in the sterilization process?

- A. Decontamination
- B. Sterilization
- C. Disinfecting
- D. Cleaning

Answer: D

Explanation:

All instruments and equipment that are reusable should be treated in one central processing area, typically called an instrument processing area. This area should be divided into four distinct sections that separate out items to be cleaned, prepared and packaged, sterilized, and storage. These areas should have a physical barrier separating them from each other. Once the used items are in the first area, they are sorted. The next step should be cleaning. This step occurs before any disinfecting or sterilizing takes place. Cleaning involves the removal of any visible material, such as blood. This can be accomplished using a brush with surfactant, detergent, and water. After the items are cleaned, they should be thoroughly rinsed with clean water. Alternatively, items can be placed to soak in an enzymatic cleaner or a detergent/disinfectant solution if manual cleaning cannot happen immediately. This step prevents material from drying on the instruments.

Question: 3

Surface disinfection can be done by an iodophor-type cleaner. Which category is this?

- A. Sterilant.
- B. High level.
- C. Intermediate level.
- D. Low level.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Iodophor-type cleaners cannot be used for sterilization, but are useful as surface disinfectants. Pre-cleaning of units is recommended to reduce the levels of bioburden in the operatory. This step is often overlooked in the interest of saving time, but it is very important for office infection control practices.

Question: 4

Following a report of an exposure incident at the dental office, what does the employer need to do for the exposed employee?

- A. The employer should allow the employee 5 days of paid vacation to seek the medical care that the employee deems necessary.
- B. The employer must document the incident and provide the affected employee with a confidential verbal and written warning and place this in the employee's permanent work history.
- C. The employer is responsible for alerting all staff members at the office in order to prevent cross-contamination from the potentially infected employee.
- D. The employer should provide the employee with a confidential medical evaluation and follow up by a qualified physician.

Answer: D

Explanation:

According to the bloodborne pathogens standard, following a report of an exposure incident occurring in a dental clinic, the employer is required to provide a confidential medical evaluation and follow-up to the exposed employee, performed by a qualified physician. This includes blood testing on the exposed individual to determine if they have been infected with hepatitis B or HIV. Documentation must be taken regarding the route of exposure and the circumstances under which the exposure incident occurred.

Question: 5

All of the following are examples of mechanical instrument cleaning except:

- A. ultrasonic cleaning.

- B. the instrument washer cycle.
- C. glutaraldehyde solution.
- D. the use of long-handled brushes.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Mechanical cleaning of contaminated instruments implies the use of some type of contact with the surface that scrubs it clean. A holding solution or glutaraldehyde ("cold sterile") solution works without contacting the surface in an abrasive or penetrating fashion. Long-handled brushes are the only acceptable type for hand scrubbing instrumentation, but this is the least desirable method due to the risk of injury from punctures.

Question: 6

Under the OSHA statutes, chemicals. must be informed and trained in safe handling of

- A. all persons over 18 years old
- B. administrative staff
- C. patients
- D. new and contract employees

Answer: D

Explanation:

The SDS must be readily available to the health and safety committee or representative, as well as to the workers who could be exposed to the controlled product. If a controlled product is made in the workplace, the employer has a duty to prepare an SDS. Employers may computerize the SDS information as long as all employees have access. Employees must also be trained on how to use the computer, the computers must be kept in working order, and the employer must make a hard copy of the SDS available to the employee or the safety and health committee upon request. (OSHA, 2013)

Question: 7

Which of the following is the correct processing protocol for dental handpieces?

- A. Pre-cleaned in the ultrasonic and then placed in the chemical vapor sterilization machine
- B. Soaked in a high-level disinfectant for a minimum of 10 hours
- C. Placed in the ultrasonic, wiped off with disinfectant and gauze, and placed in an ethylene oxide sterilization unit
- D. Wiped off with a disinfectant and gauze and then bagged and placed in a heat sterilization machine

Answer: D

Explanation:

The correct method of decontamination of a handpiece is that it should be wiped off with an intermediate-level disinfectant using disposable gauze and then bagged and placed in the sterilization machine used in the dental office. It is important that handpieces never be submerged in any solution, including that of the ultrasonic machine. This is because the liquid would damage the delicate parts of the motor in the handpiece.

Question: 8

What is the term used for determining if sterilized instruments are still sterile before reuse?

- A. Event-related packaging
- B. Terminal sterilization
- C. Chemical indicator system
- D. Biological monitoring system

Answer: A

Explanation:

Event-related packaging is the way in which sterilized dental instruments are packaged. Once the clean instruments are wrapped and then sterilized, the assumption is that the tools will remain sterile unless an event occurs. The event could be that the packaging is torn or open or becomes wet. The outside of the wrapping should indicate the date of sterilization. Information regarding the exact sterilizer used could also be included if there is more than one sterilizer in the dental office. Wrapped and sterile instruments should be appropriately stored in a closed cabinet. These items should never be stored under an open cabinet or near a sink.

Question: 9

A patient has neglected to inform you of the development of a latex allergy. The patient begins to develop an anaphylactic reaction during dental treatment. What should be done?

- A. Remove the source of latex and allow time for the patient to recover
- B. The patient needs an injection of epinephrine; call for EMS.
- C. Call the patient's emergency contact for assistance
- D. Give the patient oxygen and call the primary care physician

Answer: B

Explanation:

A latex allergy is a reaction to certain proteins found in natural latex. Mild allergic symptoms can include itching of the skin, redness, and a rash. If the symptoms are more severe, sneezing, wheezing, cough, runny nose, or itchy eyes may occur. The allergic reaction may progress to anaphylaxis, with difficulty breathing, reduction in blood pressure, weak pulse, and possible loss of consciousness. If an anaphylactic reaction occurs, emergency medical care should be obtained immediately. The patient will require an injection of epinephrine. If epinephrine is available, it should be administered according to

instructions while waiting for EMS to arrive. It is extremely important to obtain updated allergy information from patients to help prevent this type of occurrence.

Question: 10

Which steps must be completed once a boil-water advisory has been cancelled or lifted?

- A. Use an intermediate-level disinfectant to soak the dental unit tubing for 10 minutes.
- B. Unless otherwise directed by public officials, flush dental unit water lines for 1-5 minutes prior to use for patient care.
- C. Remove all dental hoses from the unit and place in the autoclave machine for sterilization.
- D. After public officials have lifted the advisory, the dental office can return to using tap water with no additional actions.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Once a city or municipality has lifted a boil-water advisory, the dental office must follow certain steps prior to using city water from the faucets. Specific action must be completed unless otherwise directed by public officials. The dental office must flush the dental unit water lines for 1-5 minutes prior to using any tap water during patient procedures and washing hands. There is no need to remove any dental hoses from the operatory, as these hoses are not able to withstand the heat that is used when sterilization occurs in the autoclave, nor does this tubing need to be soaked in any type of disinfectant.

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