

**EMT**

Chapter 19 Review

1. Which of the following questions is of LEAST pertinence for the EMT to ask a patient who intentionally overdosed on a medication?
  - A. “How much do you weigh?”
  - B. “How much did you ingest?”
  - C. “What substance did you take?”
  - D. “Why did you take the medication?”

**Answer: D**

**Rationale:** Determining what the patient ingested, how much was ingested, and the patient's weight, are all pertinent and have a direct impact on the care that is provided during the acute phase. Why the patient ingested the medication does not have a direct impact on acute care; therefore, it is the least pertinent question to ask.

1. Which of the following questions is of LEAST pertinence for the EMT to ask a patient who intentionally overdosed on a medication?

A. “How much do you weigh?”

**Rationale:** This is a very pertinent question and can impact treatment.

B. “How much did you ingest?”

**Rationale:** This is a very pertinent question and can impact treatment.

1. Which of the following questions is of LEAST pertinence for the EMT to ask a patient who intentionally overdosed on a medication?

C. “What substance did you take?”

**Rationale:** This is a very pertinent question and can impact treatment.

D. “Why did you take the medication?”

**Rationale:** Correct answer

2. A 30-year-old male, who ingested an unknown substance, begins to vomit. You should:
- A. collect the vomitus and bring it to the hospital.
  - B. apply a bag-mask device.
  - C. analyze the vomitus and try to identify the poison.
  - D. suction his oropharynx for no longer than 30 seconds.

**Answer: A**

**Rationale:** If the patient vomits, examine the contents for pill fragments. Ensure that you are wearing proper personal protective equipment for this activity. Note and document anything unusual that you see. You should try to collect the vomitus in a separate plastic bag so that it can be analyzed at the hospital.

2. A 30-year-old male, who ingested an unknown substance, begins to vomit.

You should:

A. collect the vomitus and bring it to the hospital.

**Rationale:** Correct answer

B. apply a bag-mask device.

**Rationale:** This will not help get rid of the vomitus.



2. A 30-year-old male, who ingested an unknown substance, begins to vomit. You should:

C. analyze the vomitus and try to identify the poison.

**Rationale:** This should be left for the hospital to do.

D. suction his oropharynx for no longer than 30 seconds.

**Rationale:** You should suction for no longer than 15 seconds.

3. When caring for a patient with a surface contact poisoning, it is important to remember to:
- A. prevent contamination of the patient.
  - B. avoid contaminating yourself or others.
  - C. let the hospital remove the surface poison.
  - D. immediately flush dry chemicals with water.

**Answer: B**

**Response:** Emergency care for a patient with a surface contact poisoning includes avoiding contaminating yourself and others and removing the irritating or corrosive substance from the patient as rapidly as possible. Dry chemicals must be brushed from the body prior to flushing with water.

3. When caring for a patient with a contact poisoning, it is important to remember to:

A. prevent contamination of the patient.

**Rationale:** The patient is already contaminated and you must try to minimize further contamination.

B. avoid contaminating yourself or others.

**Rationale:** Correct answer

3. When caring for a patient with a contact poisoning, it is important to remember to:

C. let the hospital remove the surface poison.

**Rationale:** Remove irritating or corrosive substances as rapidly as possible.

D. immediately flush dry chemicals with water.

**Rationale:** You must brush off dry chemicals first before washing.

4. Most poisonings occur via the \_\_\_\_\_ route.

A. injection

B. ingestion

C. inhalation

D. absorption

**Answer: B**

**Rationale:** Approximately 80% of all poisonings occur by ingestion.

4. Most poisonings occur via the \_\_\_\_\_  
route.

A. injection

**Rationale:** Less than 20% of poisonings occur  
via injection.

B. ingestion

**Rationale:** Correct answer



4. Most poisonings occur via the \_\_\_\_\_ route.

C. inhalation

**Rationale:** Less than 20% of poisonings occur via inhalation.

D. absorption

**Rationale:** Less than 20% of poisonings occur via absorption.

5. How much activated charcoal should you administer to a 55-pound child who swallowed a bottle of aspirin?

A. 12.5 g

B. 25 g

C. 2 g/kg

D. 50 g

**Answer: B**

**Rationale:** The usual dose of activated charcoal for adults and children is 1 g of charcoal per kg of body weight. To convert a patient's weight from pounds to kilograms, simply divide the weight in pounds by 2.2. Therefore, a 55-pound child should receive 25 g of activated charcoal ( $55 \text{ [pounds]} \div 2.2 = 25 \text{ [kg]}$ ). The average pediatric dosing range for activated charcoal is 12.5 to 25 g.

5. How much activated charcoal should you administer to a 55-pound child who swallowed a bottle of aspirin?

A. 12.5 g

**Rationale:** 12.5 g at 1 g/kg dose would be given to a 27-lb child.

B. 25 g

**Rationale:** Correct answer

5. How much activated charcoal should you administer to a 55-pound child who swallowed a bottle of aspirin?

C. 2 g/kg

**Rationale:** The standard dose is 1 g/kg.

D. 50 g

**Rationale:** 50 g at 1 g/kg dose would be given to a patient weighing 110 lbs.

6. After taking Vicodin for 2 years for chronic pain, a 40-year-old woman finds that her usual dosage is no longer effective and goes to the doctor to request a higher dosage.

This is an example of:

- A. addiction.
- B. dependence.
- C. tolerance.
- D. drug abuse.

**Answer: C**

**Rationale:** A person who takes a medication for a prolonged period of time often finds that higher doses of the medication are required to achieve the same effect. This is called tolerance.

6. After taking Vicodin for 2 years for chronic pain, a 40-year-old woman finds that her usual dosage is no longer effective and goes to the doctor to request a higher dosage. This is an example of:

A. addiction.

**Rationale:** This is a physiological or psychological dependence on a potentially harmful drug.

B. dependence.

**Rationale:** This is a physical or psychological need to use a drug.



6. After taking Vicodin for 2 years for chronic pain, a 40-year-old woman finds that her usual dosage is no longer effective and goes to the doctor to request a higher dosage. This is an example of:

C. tolerance.

**Rationale:** Correct answer

D. drug abuse.

**Rationale:** This is the deliberate use of an illegal drug or too much of a prescribed drug.

7. Which of the following effects does drinking alcohol NOT produce?
- A. Induction of sleep
  - B. Slowing of reflexes
  - C. Inappropriate behavior
  - D. Increased sense of awareness

**Answer: D**

**Rationale:** Drinking alcohol (ethyl alcohol) is both a sedative (decreases activity and excitement) and a hypnotic (induces sleep). It dulls the sense of awareness, slows reflexes, and reduces reaction time. It may also cause aggressive or inappropriate behavior and lack of coordination.

7. Which of the following effects does drinking alcohol NOT produce?

A. Induction of sleep

**Rationale:** It is a hypnotic and induces sleep.

B. Slowing of reflexes

**Rationale:** It is a sedative and reduces reaction time.

7. Which of the following effects does drinking alcohol NOT produce?

C. Inappropriate behavior

**Rationale:** It may cause aggressive or inappropriate behavior.

D. Increased sense of awareness

**Rationale:** Correct answer

8. A 21-year-old male was found unconscious in an alley. Your initial assessment reveals that his respirations are slow and shallow, and his pulse is slow and weak. Further assessment reveals that his pupils are bilaterally constricted. His presentation is MOST consistent with an overdose of:

- A. cocaine.
- B. an opioid.
- C. a stimulant drug.
- D. methamphetamine.

**Answer: B**

**Rationale:** Opioids are central nervous system depressant drugs; when taken in excess, they cause respiratory depression, bradycardia, and hypotension. Another common sign is miosis (constricted [pinpoint]) pupils. Cocaine, stimulant drugs (uppers), and methamphetamine have the opposite effect; they stimulate the central nervous system and cause tachycardia and hypertension.

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A. cocaine.

**Rationale:** This increases the vitals, heart rate, pulse, and breathing.

B. an opioid.

**Rationale:** Correct answer



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C. a stimulant drug.

**Rationale:** This increases the vitals, heart rate, pulse, and breathing.

D. methamphetamine.

**Rationale:** This increases the vitals, heart rate, pulse, and breathing.

9. The mnemonic DUMBELS can be used to recall the signs and symptoms of a cholinergic drug poisoning. The “E” in DUMBELS stands for:

- A. emesis.
- B. erythema.
- C. ecchymosis.
- D. elevated blood pressure.

**Answer: A**

**Rationale:** The mnemonic “DUMBELS,” which can help you recall the signs and symptoms of cholinergic drug poisoning (ie, organophosphates), stands for excessive **d**efecation, **u**rination, **m**iosis (pupillary constriction), **b**ronchorrhea, **e**mesis, **l**acrimation, and **s**alivation.

9. The mnemonic DUMBELS can be used to recall the signs and symptoms of a cholinergic drug poisoning. The “E” in DUMBELS stands for:

A. emesis.

**Rationale:** Correct answer

B. erythema.

**Rationale:** Erythema is a redness of the skin usually caused by fever or inflammation.

9. The mnemonic DUMBELS can be used to recall the signs and symptoms of a cholinergic drug poisoning. The “E” in DUMBELS stands for:

C. ecchymosis.

**Rationale:** Ecchymosis is bleeding from broken blood vessels into surrounding tissue.

D. elevated blood pressure.

**Rationale:** Elevated blood pressure usually causes bradycardia and hypotension.

10. Food poisoning is almost always caused by eating food that contains:

A. fungi.

B. viruses.

C. bacteria.

D. protozoa.

**Answer: C**

**Rationale:** Food poisoning is almost always caused by eating food that contains bacteria. *Salmonella* and botulism—two common forms of food poisoning—are both bacteria.

10. Food poisoning is almost always caused by eating food that contains:

A. fungi.

**Rationale:** Fungi include mildews, molds, mushrooms, rusts, smuts, and yeasts.

B. viruses.

**Rationale:** Viruses are not considered to be independent living organisms. Viruses need a living host and are not found on food.



10. Food poisoning is almost always caused by eating food that contains:

C. bacteria.

**Rationale:** Correct answer

D. protozoa.

**Rationale:** Protozoa are single-celled organisms.