

Chapter 25

Review

1. Which of the following statements regarding the “Adam’s apple” is FALSE?
 - A. It is inferior to the cricoid cartilage.
 - B. It is formed by the thyroid cartilage.
 - C. It is the uppermost part of the larynx.
 - D. It is more prominent in men than in women.

Answer: A

Rationale: The most obvious prominence in the center of the anterior neck is the Adam's apple. This prominence is the upper part of the larynx, formed by the thyroid cartilage. It is more prominent in men than in women. The other portion of the larynx is the cricoid cartilage, a firm ridge that is inferior to the thyroid cartilage.

1. Which of the following statements regarding the “Adam’s apple” is FALSE?

A. It is inferior to the cricoid cartilage.

Rationale: Correct answer.

B. It is formed by the thyroid cartilage.

Rationale: This is true.

C. It is the uppermost part of the larynx.

Rationale: This is true.

D. It is more prominent in men than in women.

Rationale: This is true.

2. The globe of the eye is also called the:

A. lens.

B. orbit.

C. retina.

D. eyeball.

Answer: D

Rationale: The globe of the eye is also called the eyeball. The lens, which sits behind the iris, focuses images on the retina—the light-sensitive area at the back of the globe. The globe is located within a bony socket in the skull called the orbit.

2. The globe of the eye is also called the:

A. lens.

Rationale: The lens sits behind the iris and focuses images on the light-sensitive area at the back of the globe.

B. orbit.

Rationale: The orbit forms the base of the floor of the cranial cavity and contains the eye.

2. The globe of the eye is also called the:

C. retina.

Rationale: The retina is the light-sensitive area at the back of the globe.

D. eyeball.

Rationale: Correct answer

3. When a person is looking at an object up close, the pupils should:
- A. dilate.
 - B. constrict.
 - C. remain the same size.
 - D. dilate, and then constrict.

Answer: B

Rationale: The pupils, which allow light to move to the back of the eye, constrict in bright light and dilate in dim light. The pupils should also constrict when looking at an object up close and dilate when looking at an object farther away; this is called pupillary accommodation. These pupillary adjustments occur almost instantaneously.

3. When a person is looking at an object up close, the pupils should:

A. dilate.

Rationale: The pupils will dilate when looking at objects far away.

B. constrict.

Rationale: Correct answer

3. When a person is looking at an object up close, the pupils should:

C. remain the same size.

Rationale: The pupils will constrict when looking at objects that are close.

D. dilate, and then constrict.

Rationale: The pupils will constrict first when looking at close objects.

4. When caring for a chemical burn to the eye, the EMT should:
 - A. prevent contamination of the opposite eye.
 - B. immediately cover the injured eye with a sterile dressing.
 - C. avoid irrigating the eye, as this may cause further injury.
 - D. irrigate both eyes simultaneously, even if only one eye is injured.

Answer: A

Rationale: When irrigating a chemical burn to the eye, it is important to *direct the stream away from the uninjured eye*. If you do not, you will likely flush the chemical into the unaffected eye. After irrigating the eye for the appropriate amount of time, cover *both* eyes with a sterile dressing.

4. When caring for a chemical burn to the eye, the EMT should:

A. prevent contamination of the opposite eye.

Rationale: Correct answer

B. immediately cover the injured eye with a sterile dressing.

Rationale: Irrigation of the eye must take place first.

4. When caring for a chemical burn to the eye, the EMT should:

C. avoid irrigating the eye, as this may cause further injury.

Rationale: Irrigation of the affected eye must take place. Direct the stream away from the uninjured eye.

D. irrigate both eyes simultaneously, even if only one eye is injured.

Rationale: Both eyes must be irrigated. Direct the stream of the contaminated eye away from the unaffected eye.

5. Which of the following signs is LEAST indicative of a head injury?
- A. Asymmetrical pupils
 - B. Pupillary constriction to bright light
 - C. Both eyes moving in opposite directions
 - D. Inability to look upward when instructed to

Answer: B

Rationale: The pupils normally constrict in bright light and dilate in dim light. Suspect a head injury if the pupils do not react appropriately, are asymmetrical (unequal), do not move together, or if the patient is unable to look upward.

5. Which of the following signs is LEAST indicative of a head injury?

A. Asymmetrical pupils

Rationale: This may be an indication of a head injury.

B. Pupillary constriction to bright light

Rationale: Correct answer

5. Which of the following signs is LEAST indicative of a head injury?

C. Both eyes moving in opposite directions

Rationale: This may be an indication of a head injury.

D. Inability to look upward when instructed to

Rationale: This may be an indication of a head injury.

6. The purpose of the eustachian tube is to:
- A. move in response to sound waves.
 - B. transmit impulses from the brain to the ear.
 - C. equalize pressure in the middle ear when external pressure changes.
 - D. house fluid within the inner chamber of the ear and support balance.

Answer: C

Rationale: The middle ear is connected to the nasal cavity by the eustachian tube, which permits equalization of pressure in the middle ear when external atmospheric pressure changes.

6. The purpose of the eustachian tube is to:

A. move in response to sound waves.

Rationale: This occurs in the tympanic membrane or eardrum.

B. transmit impulses from the brain to the ear.

Rationale: Impulses are transmitted from the ear to the brain.

6. The purpose of the eustachian tube is to:

C. equalize pressure in the middle ear when external pressure changes.

Rationale: Correct answer

D. house fluid within the inner chamber of the ear and support balance.

Rationale: Bony chambers in the inner ear support balance.

7. When caring for a patient with facial trauma, the EMT should be MOST concerned with:
- A. spinal trauma.
 - B. airway compromise.
 - C. associated eye injuries.
 - D. severe external bleeding.

Answer: B

Rationale: No airway, no patient! Injuries to the face often cause obstruction of the upper airway, either by clotted blood or associated swelling. Additionally, large amounts of blood can be swallowed, which increases the risks of vomiting and aspiration. Bleeding control, spinal trauma, and associated injuries are important factors and should be treated accordingly; however, the airway comes first.

7. When caring for a patient with facial trauma, the EMT should be MOST concerned with:

A. spinal trauma.

Rationale: This is a concern to be treated, but treating the airway is first.

B. airway compromise.

Rationale: Correct answer

7. When caring for a patient with facial trauma, the EMT should be MOST concerned with:

C. associated eye injuries.

Rationale: This is a concern to be treated, but treating the airway is first.

D. severe external bleeding.

Rationale: This is a concern to be treated, but treating the airway is first.

8. The presence of subcutaneous emphysema following trauma to the face and throat is MOST suggestive of:

- A. esophageal injury.
- B. cervical spine fracture.
- C. crushing tracheal injury.
- D. carotid artery laceration.

Answer: C

Rationale: Crushing injuries or fractures of the larynx or trachea can result in a leakage of air into the soft tissues of the neck. The presence of air in the soft tissues produces a characteristic crackling sensation called subcutaneous emphysema.

8. The presence of subcutaneous emphysema following trauma to the face and throat is MOST suggestive of:

A. esophageal injury.

Rationale: This will produce bleeding, which may be observed in the patient's mouth or through difficulty swallowing.

B. cervical spine fracture.

Rationale: This may be indicated by pain and/or paralysis.

8. The presence of subcutaneous emphysema following trauma to the face and throat is MOST suggestive of:

C. crushing tracheal injury.

Rationale: Correct answer

D. carotid artery laceration.

Rationale: This could be assessed by excessive swelling or the presence of a large hematoma in the neck area.

9. A 21-year-old male has a large laceration to his neck. When you assess him, you note that bright red blood is spurting from the left side of his neck. You should immediately:
- A. apply a pressure dressing to his neck.
 - B. sit the patient up to slow the bleeding.
 - C. place your gloved hand over the wound.
 - D. apply 100% oxygen via nonrebreathing mask.

Answer: C

Rationale: Laceration of the carotid artery—as evidenced by bright red blood spurting from the wound—can cause profuse bleeding, profound shock, and death very quickly. You must *immediately* control the bleeding with the use of direct pressure. Cover the wound with your gloved hand initially and then apply a bulky pressure dressing. After the bleeding has been controlled, apply high-flow oxygen and transport promptly.

9. A 21-year-old male has a large laceration to his neck. When you assess him, you note that bright red blood is spurting from the left side of his neck. You should immediately:

A. apply a pressure dressing to his neck.

Rationale: You should apply a bulky dressing to control bleeding.

B. sit the patient up to slow the bleeding.

Rationale: Bleeding must be controlled first with direct pressure.

9. A 21-year-old male has a large laceration to his neck. When you assess him, you note that bright red blood is spurting from the left side of his neck. You should immediately:

C. place your gloved hand over the wound.

Rationale: Correct answer

D. apply 100% oxygen via nonrebreathing mask.

Rationale: A nonrebreathing mask is applied after bleeding is controlled.

10. Which of the following mechanisms of injury would MOST likely cause a crushing injury of the larynx and/or trachea?

A. Attempted suicide by hanging

B. Gunshot wound to the lateral neck

C. Car crash involving lateral impact

D. Patient whose head hits the windshield

Answer: A

Rationale: Any crushing injury of the upper part of the neck is likely to involve the larynx or trachea. Examples include the anterior neck impacting a steering wheel, hanging (distraction) mechanisms, and clothesline injuries.

10. Which of the following mechanisms of injury would MOST likely cause a crushing injury of the larynx and/or trachea?

A. Attempted suicide by hanging

Rationale: Correct answer

B. Gunshot wound to the lateral neck

Rationale: This would produce a penetrating injury.

10. Which of the following mechanisms of injury would MOST likely cause a crushing injury of the larynx and/or trachea?

C. Car crash involving lateral impact

Rationale: This would produce an injury to the spine and possibly the head.

D. Patient whose head hits the windshield

Rationale: This would produce an injury to the head or a compression injury to the spine.