Chapter 13

Caring for Cardiac Emergencies

1. What chief complaint of a heart failure patient is seen more often than the others?
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A.) Chest pain
B.) Heaviness in the chest
*C.) Difficulty breathing
D.) Dizziness

2. Which of the following is NOT commonly seen in the heart failure patient?
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A.) Shortness of breath
B.) Pale, moist skin
C.) Altered mental status
*D.) Jugular vein retraction

3. Which part of the heart forces blood out to the entire body?
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A.) Right atrium
B.) Right ventricle
C.) Left atrium
*D.) Left ventricle

4. What do many of the problems with the heart come from?
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A.) Limited blood supply in the body
B.) Lack of electrical impulses
*C.) Narrowing of the coronary arteries
D.) Weakening of the muscles

5. What should you do when the patient has chest pain?
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*A.) Always assume it is cardiac
B.) Never let the patient walk
C.) Look for an alternative cause
D.) Check blood pressure

6. On average how many times does the heart beat per day?
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A.) 250,000
B.) 150,000
C.) 200,000
*D.) 100,000

7. Which of the following is NOT appropriate when caring for a patient with signs and symptoms of cardiac compromise?
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*A.) Let them know they are having a heart attack
B.) Assist with prescribed nitroglycerin, if permitted
C.) Obtain a medical history
D.) Allow the patient to maintain a position of comfort

8. At which systolic blood pressure may nitroglycerin be contraindicated?
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A.) 120 mmHg
B.) 140 mmHg
*C.) 100 mmHg
D.) 160 mmHg

9. Damage to which part of the heart most likely results in cardiac arrest?
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*A.) Left ventricle
B.) Right ventricle
C.) Left atrium
D.) Right atrium

10. Which patient is NOT as likely to present with signs or symptoms other than the classic ones of heart attack?
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A.) Diabetics
*B.) Men
C.) Elderly
D.) Women

11. What is usually the best position to place a patient with signs and symptoms of cardiac compromise to provide the greatest ease of breathing?
p. 282

A.) Recovery position
*B.) Sitting
C.) Prone
D.) Feet elevated

12. Within what amount of time after nitroglycerin has been administered should you check the patient's blood pressure?
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*A.) Two minutes
B.) Three minutes
C.) One minutes
D.) Four minutes

13. Which is the a common place the pain of a heart attack may radiate?
p. 278

A.) Back
B.) Neck
C.) Abdomen
*D.) Arm

14. What is the maximum number of doses of nitroglycerin that should be administered?
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A.) Four
B.) One
C.) Two
*D.) Three

15. What should be done first when your patient's chief complaint is chest pain?
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A.) Perform rapid assessment
B.) Perform primary assessment
C.) Collect baseline vitals
*D.) Gather a patient history

16. What often triggers angina?
p. 278

A.) Rest
*B.) Exertion
C.) Allergic reaction
D.) Choking

17. What is the ultimate form of cardiac compromise?
p. 278

A.) Cardiac distress
B.) Myocardial infarction
C.) Angina pectoris
*D.) Cardiac arrest

18. Where does blood flow through the heart begin?
p. 276

A.) Right ventricle
B.) Left atrium
*C.) Right atrium
D.) Left ventricle

19. How many times should you ask the chest pain patient about the severity of his pain?
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A.) Two
B.) Four
*C.) Three
D.) One