Chapter 24
Special Considerations for the Geriatric

1. Which of the following is NOT a common sign of suspected abuse of an elderly patient?
p. 555-556

*A.) Detailed explanation of injuries
B.) Poor interaction between patient and caregiver
C.) An obvious delay in seeking care
D.) Unexplained past injuries

2. What can cause isolation and poor nutrition in the elderly patient?
p. 549

A.) Difficulties with communication
B.) Incontinence
*C.) Limited mobility
D.) Altered mental status

3. Which of the following is a common cause of medication misuse?
p. 548

*A.) Confusion about instructions
B.) Withholding of medication by caregiver
C.) Generalized addiction
D.) Lack of doctor follow-up

4. What makes the onset of shock harder to recognize in the elderly patient?
p. 553

A.) Increase in healing time of the skin
*B.) Decrease in the ability to perspire
C.) Increase in the tearing of the skin
D.) Decrease in the elasticity in the skin

5. At what age, without regular exercise, will the lungs being the aging process with decreased ability to ventilate properly?
p. 550

*A.) 30
B.) 35
C.) 45
D.) 40

6. What changes will be most obvious to you as an Emergency Medical Responder?
p. 553

A.) To the spine
*B.) To the skin
C.) To the heart
D.) To the brain

7. What will be helpful when obtaining a history on the elderly patient?
p. 554

A.) Let the patient cover it in his order
B.) Guide the conversation with forms
C.) Bring in the caregiver
*D.) First obtain patient's medications

8. What do changes in the musculoskeletal system NOT commonly
cause in the elderly patient?
p. 552

A.) Patient loses height
*B.) Disks can fuse in the neck
C.) Bones soften and become weak
D.) Curvatures can form in the spine

9. Where should you position yourself when speaking to an elderly patient who has poor vision?
p. 550

A.) To the right side
B.) Get below eye level
*C.) Directly in front
D.) To the left side

10. What is the leading cause of injury death among the elderly?
p. 554

A.) Trauma caused by neglect
B.) Trauma caused by medications
C.) Trauma caused by abuse
*D.) Trauma caused by falls

11. Up to how many years can Alzheimer's last?
p. 554

A.) 10 years
*B.) 20 years
C.) 5 years
D.) 15 years

12. Up to what percentage of all elderly people suffer from some form of incontinence?
p. 549

A.) 40%
B.) 50%
C.) 70%
*D.) 60%

13. Approximately how much of the brain's overall weight is lost between the ages of 20 and 90 years?
p. 551

*A.) 10%
B.) 20%
C.) 15%
D.) 25%

14. What should you assume the mental status is of any elderly patient?
p. 552

A.) Coherent but mentally slowed
*B.) Coherent and mentally sharp
C.) Incoherent but mentally sharp
D.) Incoherent and mentally slowed

15. Which of the following does the loss of brain size NOT mean in the elderly patient?
p. 552

A.) Decreased reaction time
*B.) Loss of intelligence
C.) Difficulty with recent memory
D.) Psychomotor slowing

16. Which system is affected due to drug toxicity in the elderly patient?
p. 551

A.) Respiratory
*B.) Renal
C.) Neurological
D.) Cardiovascular

17. What will you conduct first on all elderly patients?
p. 553

A.) Focused assessment
*B.) Primary assessment
C.) Secondary assessment
D.) Rapid assessment

18. What is caused when the heart's electrical system degenerates with aging?
p. 551

*A.) Dysrhythmia
B.) High blood pressure
C.) Poor perfusion
D.) Tearing

19. Which of the following should you NOT do when assessing the elderly patient?
p. 553

A.) Positioning yourself at her level
B.) Speaking to her directly
*C.) Using generic nicknames
D.) Shaking her hand with introduction

20. Which type of abuse is unique to the elderly population?
p. 555

A.) Emotional
B.) Sexual
*C.) Self-neglect
D.) Physical

21. Which type of abuse of the elderly involves undue influence to change legal documents?
p. 555

*A.) Financial
B.) Emotional
C.) Physical
D.) Controlling

22. What should you consider when you encounter evidence of trauma in an elderly patient?
p. 553

*A.) Abuse
B.) Assume nothing
C.) Accident
D.) Self-injury

23. At what age is a person considered elderly?
p. 555

A.) 70 years old
B.) 75 years old
*C.) 65 years old
D.) 60 years old

24. What causes the elderly patient to be exposed to more respiratory illnesses such as pneumonia?
p. 550

A.) Disease processes such as COPD
B.) Ineffective coughing
C.) Normal aging of the lungs
*D.) Decrease in the number of cilia

25. On average, how many medications does the elderly patient take per day?
p. 548

A.) 4.0
B.) 3.5
C.) 5.0
*D.) 4.5

26. What is much of what affects the cardiovascular system related to as we age?
p. 550

A.) History
B.) Aging
*C.) Lifestyle
D.) Genetics

27. What seems to be the preferred method of committing suicide in the elderly population?
p. 552

A.) Jumping
B.) Drug overdose
C.) Hanging
*D.) Firearms