Chapter 21
Caring for Chest and Abdominal Emergencies

1. Which of the following is NOT commonly seen as a sign and symptom of injury to the abdomen?
p. 474

*A.) Patient unable to sit still
B.) Deep cut to the abdomen
C.) Rapid, shallow breathing and a rapid pulse
D.) Indications of blunt trauma to the abdomen

2. What should you cover the moist dressing with when treating an evisceration?
p. 475

A.) Clothing
B.) Paper towels
*C.) Plastic
D.) Gauze

3. Which organ is NOT located in the same abdominal space as the others?
p. 472

A.) Small intestine
B.) Liver
*C.) Kidneys
D.) Spleen

4. Which type of chest injury can fracture the ribs and cause whole section of the chest to collapse?
p. 466

*A.) Blunt trauma
B.) Penetrating trauma
C.) Grazing trauma
D.) Compression

5. What separates the abdomen from the chest cavity?
p. 471

A.) Lungs
B.) Sternum
C.) Stomach
*D.) Diaphragm

6. Which of the following is a major organ located in the chest?
p. 465

*A.) Heart
B.) Kidneys
C.) Stomach
D.) Diaphragm

7. What is one of the most common types of closed chest injuries?
p. 467

A.) Damage to the trachea
B.) Damage to the pleural space
*C.) Damage to the ribs
D.) Damage to the sternum

8. In what position should you allow the abdominal injury patient with no spinal injury take?
p. 474

A.) Seated position
*B.) Position of comfort
C.) Prone
D.) Supine with legs flat

9. What is the first thing you should do when treating a patient for a closed chest injury?
p. 468

A.) Administer oxygen
B.) Care for shock
*C.) Perform primary assessment
D.) Splint the chest with bulky dressings

10. What should you do immediately after you perform a primary assessment and ensure ABCs are intact when the patient has an impaled object in the chest?
p. 471

A.) Provide care for shock
B.) Provide high-flow oxygen
*C.) Stabilize the object
D.) Apply an occlusive dressing

11. What makes up approximately half of the torso?
p. 465

A.) Para lumbar space
B.) Lumbar region
*C.) Thoracic cavity
D.) Thoracic area

12. What is the most obvious sign of a patient with an injured lung?
p. 467

*A.) Difficulty breathing
B.) Posturing
C.) Loss of consciousness
D.) Cyanotic

13. Which is the definition of flail chest?
p. 467

A.) Three or more ribs are broken in one place
B.) Four ribs are broken in three or more places
C.) One rib is broken in two or more places
*D.) Two or more ribs are broken in two or more places

14. Which of the following is NOT considered a sign of a closed chest injury?
p. 468

A.) Pain on breathing
*B.) Even movement of the chest
C.) Increased difficulty breathing
D.) Accessory muscle use

15. What should you use to check the location of the trachea when a patient has a chest wound?
p. 469

A.) Wrist
B.) Instrument
C.) Palms
*D.) Fingers

16. In what position should you place a patient with an evisceration if there is no spinal injury?
p. 474

A.) Prone
B.) On the left side
*C.) Supine
D.) On the right side

17. Which of the following is a solid organ?
p. 471

A.) Urinary bladder
B.) Stomach
C.) Gallbladder
*D.) Liver

18. What does the patient do to try and protect the painful area of their abdomen?
p. 473

A.) Fighting
B.) Posturing
C.) Blocking
*D.) Guarding

19. What is the minimum number of sides you can tape when using an occlusive dressing?
p. 470

*A.) Three
B.) Two
C.) One
D.) Four

20. What appearance will blood in the feces have?
p. 473

A.) Like coffee grounds
*B.) Like tar
C.) Bright red
D.) Dark red

21. Which type of injury is caused by striking the chest on the steering column?
p. 467

A.) Penetrating trauma
B.) Grazing trauma
*C.) Compression
D.) Blunt trauma

22. Which of the following has a richer blood supply and may lead to significant blood loss when damaged?
p. 472

*A.) Spleen
B.) Gallbladder
C.) Intestines
D.) Uterus

23. Why should an impaled object be left in place?
p. 471

A.) It would hurt to remove
B.) You are not qualified to remove it
*C.) It is sealing the wound
D.) It is stuck

24. What is a late sign of a tension pneumothorax?
p. 469

*A.) Tracheal deviation
B.) Increased work of breathing
C.) Swollen chest wall
D.) Whistling with inhalation

25. What surrounds each lung?
p. 466

A.) Alveoli
*B.) Pleura
C.) Intercostal muscles
D.) Chest wall

26. Which part(s) of the chest must be splinted if you discover a flail chest in the field?
p. 467

A.) Splint the area above the flail segment
B.) Splint to segment opposite the flail segment
*C.) Splint the flail segment
D.) Splint the entire chest

27. What does the chest cavity fill with when a pneumothorax occurs?
p. 467

A.) Blood
*B.) Air
C.) Mucus
D.) Water

28. Where does air go when the patient is suffering from a sucking chest wound?
p. 469

*A.) Chest cavity
B.) Intercostal muscles
C.) Heart
D.) Alveoli

29. What can be used to temporarily cover an open chest wound to prevent air from entering as the patient breaths?
p. 470

A.) Commercial occlusive dressing
B.) Gauze pad
*C.) Gloved hand
D.) Plastic bag

30. What is the most common symptom of a closed abdominal injury?
p. 474

A.) Bleeding from the mouth
*B.) Pain over one location
C.) Large amounts of bruising
D.) Distended or swollen abdomen

31. What is the minimum distance from the edge of the open chest would that the occlusive dressing should extend?
p. 470

A.) 3 inches (7 cm)
B.) 4 inches (10 cm)
*C.) 2 inches (5 cm)
D.) 1 inch (2.5 cm)

32. What should you rule out first when you encounter a patient with acute abdominal pain?
p. 473

A.) Any history of pain
B.) Any acute medical conditions
C.) Any chronic conditions
*D.) Any recent trauma