

**Sample questions for the
enrolled nurse IQN theoretical examination**

Part A: Medication safety

Q1. Oral digoxin 125mcg daily is prescribed for a patient. The tablet strength available is 62.5mcg. How many tablets must be given?

- A.** 2 tablets.
- B.** 3 tablets.
- C.** 3.5 tablets.
- D.** 4 tablets.

Q2. A patient is prescribed 125mg of medication. The ampule contains 400mg/4mL. How many mL will you administer?

- A.** 0.8mL
- B.** 1mL
- C.** 1.25mL
- D.** 1.5mL

Q3. A patient is prescribed 250mg of antibiotics in 200mL of intravenous fluid over 30 minutes. The correct rate in mL per hour to set the infusion device is

- A.** 100mL per hour
- B.** 200mL per hour
- C.** 400mL per hour
- D.** 500mL per hour

Q4. How many mg is 5000mcg?

- A.** 0.5mg
 - B.** 5mg
 - C.** 50mg
 - D.** 500mg
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Part B: Nursing knowledge

Q5. The role of the Nursing Council of New Zealand is

- A.** to protect the unregulated and regulated health workforce.
 - B.** to regulate doctors to protect public safety.
 - C.** to regulate nursing to protect public safety.
 - D.** to protect the nursing workforce.
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Q6. A patient tells you they are afraid of their surgical procedure. You should

- A.** call the hospital chaplain to come and talk with the patient.
 - B.** listen to the patient's concerns and use reflective communication skills.
 - C.** change the subject to something more positive.
 - D.** call the family and report the patient's concerns to them.
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Q7. When working with colleagues, nurses should

- A.** have the right to hold different opinions and work as individuals.
 - B.** treat colleagues with respect and work in a collaborative and co-operative manner.
 - C.** avoid colleagues they find challenging to work alongside.
 - D.** alert patients if a colleague is less than capable.
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Q8. A patient with asthma arrives at the emergency department/emergency room and is visibly distressed, coughing and with audible wheeze. Why are they prescribed salbutamol (beta-adrenergic agonist)?

- A.** To dilate the airways.
 - B.** To reduce secondary infections.
 - C.** To decrease postnasal drip.
 - D.** To reduce airway inflammation.
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Q9. A patient has had a myocardial infarction involving a large section of the heart muscle. You assess them at risk for

- A.** hypovolaemic shock.
 - B.** cardiogenic shock.
 - C.** metabolic shock.
 - D.** neurogenic shock.
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- Q10.** What may a patient experience in a hypomanic phase of a bipolar mood disorder?
- A.** Hallucinations, fatigue, anhedonia.
 - B.** Social withdrawal, decreased self-esteem, obsessive thoughts.
 - C.** Elevated mood, reduced need for sleep, irritability.
 - D.** Increased activity, increased need for sleep, pressured speech.
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- Q11.** A patient has been admitted with symptoms of alcohol withdrawal. What is your main responsibility to them during their medical detoxification?
- A.** Administer fluids via a naso-gastric tube to maintain hydration.
 - B.** Don't disturb the patient so they can sleep.
 - C.** Prepare to physically restrain them if necessary.
 - D.** Keep the person safe and monitor for any deterioration.
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- Q12.** A patient tells you they do not want to have the prescribed enoxaparin sodium (Clexane) injection. Your first response would be to
- A.** inform them they must have the injection as it has been prescribed.
 - B.** reassure them that it is prescribed for everyone who has a surgical procedure.
 - C.** accept that they do not want the injection.
 - D.** ask what concerns them about having the injection.
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- Q13.** Prior to surgery a patient is to have nothing to eat or drink. This is necessary to
- A.** assist in the proper absorption of the anaesthetic.
 - B.** prevent nausea and vomiting immediately after surgery.
 - C.** avoid the danger of inhaling the stomach contents (aspiration).
 - D.** avoid incontinence during surgery.
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- Q14.** After surgery a patient has a morphine infusion running at the maximum prescribed rate of 15mg per hour. When you conduct a pain assessment, they say the pain is unbearable and they are obviously distressed. You should
- A.** increase the infusion rate to 20mg per hour.
 - B.** reassess the pain and contact the doctor to review the patient's medication.
 - C.** help the patient to relax and reassure them that the pain will go.
 - D.** give the patient two paracetamol tablets and reassess them in half an hour.
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- Q15.** Furosemide (a diuretic) has been prescribed for a patient with congestive heart failure. The prescriber has not signed the medication chart. You should
- A.** double check the medication with a senior registered nurse.
 - B.** contact the prescriber to sign the prescription.
 - C.** give the furosemide, sign for it and inform the nurse manager.
 - D.** ask your nurse manager to sign the prescription, then give it.
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