GASTROINTESTINAL QUIZ

1. Nurses caring for malnourished patient need to remember that
   a. malnutrition can always be traced to poor eating habits
   b. blood glucose levels need to be monitored frequently when the patient is receiving total parenteral nutrition or tube feedings
   c. a PEG tube is only used for short term tube feedings
   d. the patient needs to be supine when receiving tube feedings

2. Assessment findings in patients with gastrointestinal disturbances include
   a. “coffee-ground” brown emesis as an indication of lower GI bleeding
   b. bloody diarrhea with Crohn’s disease
   c. serum amylase greater than 200 as an indication of obesity
   d. heartburn after foods that lower LES pressure in GERDS

3. An appropriate nursing diagnosis for the patient with a new ostomy is
   a. risk for impaired skin integrity
   b. imbalance nutrition, less than body requirements
   c. disturbed body image
   d. all of the above

4. When teaching patients the differences between the various forms of hepatitis, the nurse explains that
   a. Hepatitis B, C, D and G are all transmitted via blood and sexually
   b. Hepatitis E is a subacute infection that progresses to chronic hepatitis
   c. Hepatitis A, if untreated, can progress to cirrhosis

5. Primary functions of the gastrointestinal system include
   a. providing the body with a continual supply of nutrients, electrolytes and water
   b. the appetite center in the stomach stimulated by a full stomach
   c. the small intestine which mechanically and chemically starts food digestion
   d. the large intestine which has villi to aid in absorption of digested food

6. When caring for the patient with an intestinal obstruction, the nurse needs to remember that
a. neuromuscular obstruction (that is, occurring with acute pancreatitis, is the most common type  
b. treatment includes correction and maintenance of fluid and electrolyte balance  
c. assessment findings of lower small bowel obstruction include rapid onset with projectile vomiting and low pitched bowel sounds over obstruction  
d. all of the above

7. A patient has cirrhosis of the liver. The nurse, in order to help the patient better understand this condition, explains that  
a. diet should be high in protein and sodium to help ascites fluid return to the intravascular space  
b. early signs of the disease are jaundice and peripheral edema  
c. it is a chronic progressive disease affecting the liver parenchymal cells  
d. aspirin is the pain medicine of choice with this condition

8. On admission, a patient complains of unbearable constant abdominal pain which sometimes “shoots to my back” despite vomiting for the past two days. The patient also provides a history of frequent alcohol use. From this data, the nurse suspects  
a. acute GERDS  
b. acute pancreatitis  
c. upper small intestinal obstruction  
d. early onset of cirrhosis of the liver

9. The patient with irritable bowel syndrome  
a. has frequent abdominal discomfort often relieved by defecation  
b. may have concurrent conditions such as psychological distress and fibromyalgia  
c. may respond well to stress reduction and cognitive behavioral therapy as a part of treatment  
d. all of the above

10. While the nurse is obtaining a nursing history from a patient, an OTC medication that the patient uses and the nurse recognizes as significant to liver damage is  
a. aspirin  
b. antacids  
c. acetaminophen  
d. cough suppressants