

Online archive 27a

Question papers – nursing examination (1894)

The Association had become concerned about the education and training of attendants and nurses in the second half of the 19th century. They started examinations for those wishing to be registered as trained nurses on a register devised and administered by the Association. This occurred before the formation of a statutory Nursing Council in the 20th century. This online archive is an example of one of their papers.

1. What is the ordinary temperature of the body in health? Is elevation of temperature frequent amongst the insane? How would you proceed to ascertain exactly whether there was any rise of temperature in a given case?
2. A patient has had a fall; what symptoms or conditions would lead you to suppose that one or more ribs had been broken?
3. An epileptic patient has received a deeply incised wound of the scalp, which is bleeding freely; describe the steps you would take to arrest the bleeding and temporarily dress the wound.
4. What steps would you take to prevent the occurrence of bed sores in an enfeebled patient confined to bed? State the parts of the body to which you would pay special attention.
5. What indications in a patient's condition would lead you to suppose that insufficient nutriment was being taken, and that special attention to alimentation was necessary?
6. Describe generally the mental and bodily states of a patient suffering from Acute Melancholia, and how would you act towards such a case if you were placed in special charge?
7. Give the anatomical names of the following bones:
 - a) collar bone
 - b) shoulderblade
 - c) thigh bone
 - d) bones of arm
 - e) bones of leg
8. What weight and form of bed-clothing would you consider sufficient for patients in cold weather?
9. The following articles of dietary are required for a patient:
 - a) beef tea
 - b) arrowroot
 - c) egg dip
 - d) custard puddingHow would you prepare them?

10. A patient has swallowed poison; what means are you acquainted with for emptying the stomach? Give names and doses of some simple emetics.
11. What class of patients require special attention at meals, and what precautions should be observed as to the character of their food?

Three hours are allowed to answer this paper. The questions are valued at 10 marks each; two-thirds of the possible total of marks are required to pass.

References

Chapter 11 *Education and training of nurses.*