Skin, Hair, & Nails Prep

Tina Jones is a pleasant, 28-year-old African American woman who presented to the emergency department for evaluation of a right foot injury and is admitted for IV antibiotics. She is now admitted to your unit for care.

Learning Objective

Develop strong physical assessment skills in relation to different body systems. Develop strong communication skills, accurate and appropriate documentation skills. Continue to develop strong communication skills.

Getting Ready

1.    Nurse Bea plans to administer dexamethasone cream to a client who has dermatitis over the anterior chest How should the nurse apply this topical agent?  
a.    With a circular motion, to enhance absorption  
b.    With an upward motion, to increase blood supply to the affected area  
c.    In long, even, outward, and downward strokes in the direction of hair growth  
d.    In long, even, outward, and upward strokes in the direction opposite hair growth

2. Nurse Meredith is caring for a wheelchair-bound client. Which piece of equipment impedes circulation to the area it’s meant to protect?  
a.    Polyurethane foam mattress  
b.    Ring or donut  
c.    Gel flotation pad  
d.    Water bed

3.    Dr. Smith prescribes an emollient for a client with pruritus of recent onset. The client asks why the emollient should be applied immediately after a bath or shower. How should the nurse respond?  
a.    “This makes the skin feel soft.”  
b.    “This prevents evaporation of water from the hydrated epidermis.”  
c.    “This minimizes cracking of the dermis.”  
d.    “This prevents inflammation of the skin.”

Assessment

In the evaluation phase of assessment, ensure the information collected is complete, accurate and documented appropriately. The nurse must draw on critical thinking and problem solving skills to make clinical decisions and plan care for the patient being assessed. If any abnormal findings are identified, the nurse must ensure that appropriate action is taken. This may include communicating the findings to the medical team

List five (5) specific items you would inspect in a focused dermatology assessment. Why?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

List three (3) specific items you would palpate in a focused dermatology assessment. Why?

1.

2.

3.

Identify two **MEDICAL** complications you would want to watch for during a dermatology assessment. List three preventive measures for each.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Medical Complication | Preventive Nursing Measures |
|  | 1.  2.  3. |
|  | 1.  2.  3. |

Identify and prioritize two basic needs that you would assess during the dermatology assessment. Why?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Basic Need | Why? |
| 1. |  |
| 2. |  |

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