

Breaking Down Analysis Level Questions

Two main focuses on NCLEX:

1. Evaluating Client Data
2. Prioritizing Data or Interventions

EVALUATION:

Example question:

The nurse is caring for a client on a telemetry unit. It is 8 am. The client has orders for digoxin 0.125 mg by mouth daily, and furosemide 20 mg by mouth BID. The nurse notes atrial fibrillation on the client's rhythm strip. Based on this strip, which of the following actions would be most appropriate for the nurse to take?

- a. Withhold the digoxin and notify the primary health care provider that the client has an irregular heart rhythm.
- b. Withhold the digoxin and recheck the heart rate and rhythm in one hour.
- c. Administer the digoxin and notify the primary health care provider that the client has an irregular heart rhythm.
- d. Administer the digoxin and document the heart rate and rhythm.

Expectation:

Recognize the pathophysiology and clinical manifestations of atrial fibrillation, the appropriate medical treatment for this problem, and the actions/possible interactions of multiple medications the client is receiving.

PRIORITIZATION:

Example question:

The nurse has been assigned to a group of clients. Which of the following clients should the nurse assess first?

- A 25-year-old who had knee replacement surgery 4 hours ago and is complaining of moderate surgical site discomfort.
- A 19-year-old with septicemia whose first dose of intravenous antibiotics is infusing and who reports throat tightness.
- A 38-year-old with anemia who has a unit of packed red blood cells infusing and reports feeling tired.
- A 69-year-old with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) who has a pulse oximetry reading of 92%.

Expectation:

Interpret multiple data on four different clients in order to determine which client has the most life-threatening problem or most important need. The client receiving newly ordered antibiotics may be experiencing an allergic reaction and requires immediate assessment for possible airway obstruction.