



## Certified Pediatric Emergency Nurse Detailed Content Outline



Total # ITEMS

### 1. Triage Process and Assessment

31

- A. Emergency Intake
  - 1. Visual assessment (sick vs. not sick)
  - 2. Pediatric Assessment Triangle (PAT)
  - 3. Triage priority based on acuity and resources
  - 4. Isolation
- B. Emergency preparedness
  - 1. Decontamination (e.g., chemical or biological agents)
  - 2. Mass casualty
- C. History and Physical
  - 1. Primary survey
  - 2. Secondary survey
  - 3. Behavioral status and risk for harm (e.g., risk-taking behaviors, self-harm, violence)
  - 4. Developmental milestones
  - 5. Children with special needs
  - 6. Sexual orientation and gender identity
  - 7. Caregivers' perception of child's baseline and current status
- D. Pain
  - 1. Developmentally appropriate assessment and reassessment of pain
  - 2. Non-pharmacological and pharmacological interventions
  - 3. Procedural sedation
- E. Family
  - 1. Family functioning and dynamics (e.g., coping strategies, support systems, parenting skills, learning style)
- F. Legal Issues
  - 1. Consent for treatment
  - 2. Preservation of forensic evidence
  - 3. Chain of custody
  - 4. Government regulations
    - a. EMTALA
    - b. HIPAA
    - c. Mandatory reportable situations (e.g., child abuse/neglect, infectious diseases)



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<b>2. Medical Emergencies: Respiratory, Cardiovascular, and Neurological</b>	<b>32</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Respiratory               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Upper Airway                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Foreign body</li> <li>b. Infections (e.g., croup, epiglottitis)</li> <li>c. Congenital conditions (e.g., stenosis, malacia)</li> <li>d. Artificial airway (e.g., tracheostomy)</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Lower Airway                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Foreign body</li> <li>b. Infections (e.g., bronchiolitis, pneumonia)</li> <li>c. Reactive airway disease/asthma</li> <li>d. Congenital conditions (e.g., cystic fibrosis, chronic lung disease)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>B. Cardiovascular               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shock (i.e., hypovolemic, cardiogenic, distributive, obstructive)</li> <li>2. Rhythm disturbances</li> <li>3. Infections (e.g., myocarditis)</li> </ul> </li> <li>C. Neurological               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Infections (e.g., meningitis)</li> <li>2. Seizure</li> <li>3. Shunt dysfunction</li> <li>4. Headache, migraine, and tumor</li> <li>5. Stroke</li> <li>6. Congenital conditions (e.g., hydrocephalus, arteriovenous malformation)</li> </ul> </li> <li>D. Post-resuscitative care</li> </ul>	
<b>3. Additional Medical Emergencies</b>	<b>35</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Gastrointestinal               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Foreign body</li> <li>2. Obstructions (e.g., pyloric stenosis, intussusception, volvulus, constipation)</li> <li>3. Infections (e.g., gastroenteritis, appendicitis, pancreatitis)</li> <li>4. Inflammatory bowel disease (e.g., Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis)</li> <li>5. Gastrointestinal bleeding</li> <li>6. Nutrition (e.g., failure to thrive, formula intolerance, obesity, fluid-electrolyte imbalance, GERD)</li> <li>7. Congenital conditions (e.g., tracheoesophageal fistula)</li> </ul> </li> <li>B. Genitourinary               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Infections (e.g., UTI, STI, PID, epididymitis, pyelonephritis)</li> <li>2. Male genitourinary emergencies (e.g., testicular torsion, priapism, phimosis)</li> <li>3. OB/GYN emergencies (e.g., ectopic pregnancy, vaginal bleeding, emergent delivery, ovarian cysts, ovarian torsion)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	



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- C. Maxillofacial
  - 1. Foreign body
  - 2. Infections (e.g., peritonsillar, abscess, strep throat, mastoiditis)
  - 3. Hemorrhage (e.g., epistaxis, post-T&A bleed)
- D. Ocular
  - 1. Foreign body
  - 2. Infections (e.g., periorbital cellulitis, conjunctivitis)
- E. Musculoskeletal
  - 1. Foreign body (e.g., impalements)
  - 2. Infections (e.g., osteomyelitis, septic arthritis)
  - 3. Congenital conditions (e.g., osteogenesis imperfecta)
- F. Integumentary
  - 1. Foreign body
  - 2. Infections (e.g., cellulitis)
  - 3. Rash (e.g., hives, petechiae, infestations)
- G. Hematology/Oncology
  - 1. Hematology (e.g., sickle cell, bleeding or clotting disorders, ITP)
  - 2. Oncology (e.g., fever and neutropenia, tumor lysis syndrome)
- H. Endocrine/metabolic (e.g., congenital adrenal disorders, glucose disturbance)
- I. Sepsis
- J. Allergic reactions and anaphylaxis

### **4. Special Considerations**

**27**

- A. Neonatal Emergencies
  - 1. Infections (e.g., neonatal sepsis)
  - 2. Hyperbilirubinemia
  - 3. Thermoregulation
  - 4. Fluid-electrolyte imbalance
  - 5. Newborn resuscitation
  - 6. Congenital conditions (e.g., ductal dependent lesions)
- B. Behavioral Emergencies
  - 1. Self-injury (e.g., cutting, eating disorders)
  - 2. Mood disorders (e.g., depression, anxiety)
  - 3. Suicidal ideations/attempts
  - 4. Homicidal ideations
  - 5. Acute psychosis
  - 6. Aggressive behavior
  - 7. Substance abuse
  - 8. Post-traumatic stress disorder
  - 9. Pervasive developmental disorders



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- C. Maltreatment Emergencies
  - 1. Emotional abuse
  - 2. Physical abuse
  - 3. Sexual abuse or assault
  - 4. Neglect
  - 5. Human trafficking
- D. Environmental
  - 1. Temperature-related emergencies (e.g., heat, cold)
  - 2. Envenomation emergencies (e.g., bites, stings)
  - 3. Chemical exposures (e.g., cleaning agents, organophosphates)
  - 4. Vector borne illnesses (e.g., rabies, ticks)
- E. Toxicology
  - 1. Ingestion and poisoning (e.g., medications, alcohol)
  - 2. Carbon monoxide poisoning
  - 3. Drug interactions/withdrawal
- F. Communicable diseases
  - 1. Childhood diseases (e.g., measles, mumps, pertussis, chicken pox)
  - 2. Multi-drug resistant organisms (e.g., MRSA, VRE)
  - 3. C. Difficile

<b>5. Trauma Emergencies</b>	<b>25</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Respiratory           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Upper airway trauma (e.g., tracheal disruption)</li> <li>2. Lower airway trauma (e.g., pneumothorax, hemothorax, pulmonary contusion)</li> </ul> </li> <li>B. Cardiovascular (e.g., tamponade, blunt cardiac injury)</li> <li>C. Neurological (e.g., traumatic brain injury, intracranial bleeds, herniation syndrome, spinal cord injury)</li> <li>D. Gastrointestinal (e.g., liver injury, spleen injury, bowel injury)</li> <li>E. Genitourinary (e.g., straddle injury, renal contusion)</li> <li>F. Environmental (e.g., submersion injuries, burns, electric injuries)</li> <li>G. Maxillofacial (e.g., tooth avulsion, facial fracture)</li> <li>H. Ocular (e.g., hyphema, corneal abrasions, globe rupture, ocular burns)</li> <li>I. Musculoskeletal (e.g., fractures, joint dislocations, sprains, strains, amputations, compartment syndrome)</li> <li>J. Integumentary (e.g., avulsions, abrasions, lacerations, degloving)</li> </ul>	<b>150</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>

**Note:** In addition to the 150 scored items, 25 unscored pretest items will be administered to each candidate.

A CPEN® is a registered nurse who possesses advanced critical thinking and highly developed skills in providing emergency care to pediatric patients and their families. The CPEN® is able to apply these skills autonomously, demonstrating the ability to assess, analyze, intervene, and evaluate ill or injured pediatric patients in the emergency setting.

The following concepts are integrated throughout the examination, appropriate to the stated task:

- Collaboration with other health care providers
- Communication
- Conflict management
- Critical incident stress management (debriefing)
- Discharge planning
- Diversity
- Ethical Considerations
- Evidence-based practice
- Family-centered care
- Growth and development
- Health promotion and injury prevention
- Medication administration
- Pain management
- Patient safety
- Pharmacology