

## CFRN Sample Questions

The following 10 sample questions are presented to demonstrate the format used on the CFRN exam and how questions reflect the nursing process. These sample questions are not intended to reflect the difficulty of the actual questions on the CFRN exam. The preferred response is indicated in boldface type.

1. The flight nurse is dispatched to the scene of a motorcycle crash. The patient has had extensive blood loss from a partially amputated lower extremity. No treatment has been initiated. Vital signs are as follows:

BP 83/34 mmHg  
HR 146 beats/min  
RR 43 breaths/min

As the nurse prepares to initiate the massive transfusion protocol, which of the following interventions should be the HIGHEST priority?

- A. **application of a tourniquet**
- B. administration of tranexamic acid (TXA)
- C. administration of blood products
- D. initiation of IV lactated Ringer's solution at a wide-open rate

2. The flight nurse is involved in a high-altitude rescue mission at 12,000 ft above sea level. The ambient temperature is 87°F (30.6°C). The patient weighs 35 kg more than previously stated. Which of the following actions should the nurse take?

- A. **Update the pilot-in-command.**
- B. Prepare the patient for flight.
- C. Defer to another flight agency.
- D. Abort the mission.

3. The flight nurse is preparing a patient who is breathing 36 breaths/min with a pulse oximetry reading of 94% on 15 L and speaking 2–3-word sentences. Which of the following arterial blood gas findings would require intervention?

- A. pH 7.46, PaCO<sub>2</sub> 33 mm Hg, HCO<sub>3</sub> 30 mm Hg, PaO<sub>2</sub> 87 mm Hg
- B. **pH 7.20, PaCO<sub>2</sub> 61 mm Hg, HCO<sub>3</sub> 31 mm Hg, PaO<sub>2</sub> 89 mm Hg**
- C. pH 7.35, PaCO<sub>2</sub> 40 mm Hg, HCO<sub>3</sub> 21 mm Hg, PaO<sub>2</sub> 97 mm Hg
- D. pH 7.32, PaCO<sub>2</sub> 35 mm Hg, HCO<sub>3</sub> 19 mm Hg, PaO<sub>2</sub> 91 mm Hg

4. A patient who is at 32 weeks gestation is being transported to the trauma center. The patient is in full cervical spine immobilization. Suddenly, the patient becomes hypotensive. The flight nurse should IMMEDIATELY

- A. **place towels under the right side of the backboard.**
- B. initiate vasopressor therapy.
- C. prepare for emergent delivery.
- D. administer an IV fluid bolus.

5. After loading a 5-year-old patient who is intubated into the transport vehicle, the flight nurse notes decreased expansion on the left side of the patient's chest. The nurse should

- A. insert an orogastric tube.
- B. increase the tidal volume.
- C. **assess the endotracheal tube depth.**
- D. perform a needle thoracostomy.

6. The flight nurse is evaluating a child who presents with a petechial rash, nuchal rigidity, and an elevated white blood cell count. The nurse should suspect

- A. Lyme disease.
- B. **bacterial meningitis.**
- C. subarachnoid hemorrhage.
- D. Reye's syndrome.

7. All medical aircraft are required to have what piece of equipment that aids in finding an aircraft after a crash?

- A. global position receiver
- B. squawk transponder
- C. **emergency locator transmitter**
- D. satellite telephone

8. Which of the following physiologic changes in a bariatric patient could be problematic during transport?

- A. increased lung compliance
- B. decreased airway resistance
- C. decreased oxygen consumption
- D. **reduced pulmonary compliance**

9. The flight nurse is preparing to transport a patient who has a history of alcoholism and is uncooperative. The patient's abdomen is distended, and the following laboratory tests are obtained:

serum blood glucose	400 mg/dL
serum ethanol	70 mg/dL
serum ammonia	62 mcg/dL
prothrombin time (PT)	20 seconds
international normalized ratio	2

The nurse should recognize that the MOST likely cause of the patient's confusion is

- A. **hepatic encephalopathy.**
- B. bowel obstruction.
- C. hyperglycemia.
- D. schizophrenia.

10. The flight nurse is assessing a patient who sustained a gunshot wound to the right chest and has diminished breath sounds on the right with a Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) score of 15. Vital signs are as follows:

BP        88/50 mm Hg  
HR        140 beats/min  
RR        30 breaths/min  
O<sub>2</sub> sat    88% on a nonrebreathing mask

Which of the following actions should the nurse take prior to transport?

- A. **Insert a chest tube.**
- B. Obtain a chest x-ray.
- C. Initiate BiPAP.
- D. Intubate the patient.