

DR. PYLE

Physical Evaluation Test I September 15, 2005 Name _____
Please complete the following questions about the cases using short answer essays; Please write neatly. Thanks. (65 pts)

Patient Case # 1.

Ms. Marilyn Lincoln is a 31 year old female patient who comes into Dr. Josephine Shmoe's dental office without an appointment seeking dental care late one afternoon. She had been referred by the chiropractor next door to the office. Ms. Lincoln stated that she had been in a car accident the day before that resulted in back and dental injuries for which she was treated and released for the local emergency room. She was seeking a dental examination for her insurance company and then she indicated that she would follow up with treatment afterwards. The story made sense.

The patient's appearance was disheveled and she was somewhat agitated and behaving strangely. Accompanying her into the office was another woman and a man. All three of them were somewhat frightening. Ms. Lincoln indicated that she needed medication (specifically, valium) to help her through this; to decrease her pain and anxiety. While Dr. Shmoe interviewed and examined the patient, the two individuals who came to the office with her began wandering around the office, including unauthorized entry into several operatories. They finally went back to the waiting room after three requests to do so.

Upon examination, Dr. Shmoe sees several teeth with fractured cusps. Ms. Lincoln was very "jumpy" at every touch. She again indicated her need for the valium to help calm her. The patient was unable to localize her pain. Objective examination results were inconclusive. Upon electric pulp testing and percussion of the fractured teeth, there was no definitive pathology. Radiographs were negative. Other dental disease that was not related to traumatic injuries included generalized periodontal disease and areas of caries. While the patient could have had pain from the fractured cusps, the level of pain indicated by the patient did not seem appropriate.

What are the first things Dr. Shmoe might do in dealing with a patient like this?

1. _____ 2 pts
2. _____ 2 pts

In what other ways could you verify the patient's story?

3. _____ 2 pts
4. _____ 2 pts

Dr. Shmoe decided to prescribe a small amount of valium for the next 5 days and planned to see the patient again at that time. Dr. Shmoe was concerned about the possibility of drug dependency but the patient denied drug abuse including valium abuse. Dr. Shmoe's plan was to seal the exposed dentinal tubules of the fractured teeth at the next visit, and confirm the source of pain. If this did not help, she planned on a referral to an endodontist. Long-term plans included restorative procedures and periodontal therapy. The patient agreed to the treatment and to return in 5 days. Two days later the patient calls says she is in real pain and needs more valium. Dr. Shmoe did not have time to see the patient that day. She also did not want to prescribe more valium. In fact, she

really didn't want to see the patient in her practice. But some of the patient's story seemed legitimate. Dr. Shmoe thought to herself: If Ms. Lincoln had shown up in a suit and alone, she would have an entirely different perspective on this case.

Please list 4 treatment alternatives (ethical or not) that Dr. Shmoe could pursue on the second day when the patient called with pain and wanting additional valium. 12 pts

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

5. Please explain the conflicts that exist in the above 4 alternatives with regards to: nonmaleficence, beneficence, autonomy, and justice. If your alternatives do not directly relate to 1 or more of the 4 principles of ethical decision making, please provide another treatment example that would challenge that principle 15 pts.

Nonmaleficence:

Beneficence:

Autonomy:

Justice:

6. What would you do in this case? 5 pts.

Case # 2.

Mr. Wally Pemberton, an 89 year old male calls the School of Dental Medicine for an appointment for some dental work. He has heard that the School is a great place to go for care and the cost is really cheap. Mr. Pemberton has been assigned to you as a patient. You anxiously await his self-admit appointment today, because you really need to get a denture competency completed. (Dr. Hirsch has been after you to get it done.) You anticipate the patient will need a denture after chatting with him on the phone about his dental status. Mr. Pemberton is dropped off at the front door by his neighbor who often gives him rides since he doesn't drive anymore, (Thank goodness). He had been driving until 6 months ago when he had an accident, running up onto the sidewalk, knocking over a fire hydrant and slightly injuring a pedestrian. (Thank goodness only minor bruises.) Mr. Pemberton resides in an assisted living facility just one block from the School. He has lived there for 4 years, having moved from the home he and his deceased wife had lived in for 50 years in Cleveland Heights. He has a durable power of attorney for financial issues. (his neice in Omaha). Upon examination Mr. Pemberton has four maxillary anterior teeth with irreversible periodontitis and 6 mandibular anterior teeth with caries and severe periodontal disease. After examination and review of clinical data, you suggest that all remaining teeth should be extracted and full upper and lower dentures fabricated. Mr. Pemberton stated at the beginning of the appointment that he wants fixed bridges placed on his remaining teeth and does not want any teeth pulled.

7. What should you do and why? Please list 2 initial things you would do. 6 pts

a. _____

b. _____

8. Is this person competent? (Choose one alternative below) 4 pts

Yes, because _____

No, because _____

I am not sure, because _____

In this case, please explain the components of assuring decisional capacity. (What abilities must the patient be able to demonstrate?) Answer must relate to the circumstances of this case. 15 pts.

9.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

e. _____
