

NSG 123
Chest Tube Study Guide

Video 627.54-C645c Closed Chest Drainage.

1. What is the purpose of inserting a chest tube?
2. In what specific areas of the chest are chest tubes inserted?
3. List 5 reasons for chest tube insertion.
4. Define the terms:
 - a. Pneumothorax
 - b. Hemothorax
 - c. Empyema
5. Why is a tension pneumothorax a life-threatening situation?
6. Where is the proximal end of the chest tube inserted?
7. What are the 3 chambers that make up the drainage unit?
8. How do you track the amount of drainage collected in the collection chamber? How often is this done?
9. How does the water seal chamber function?
10. What should the water seal chamber be monitored for?
11. What is tidaling?
12. What controls the amount of suction in the suction control chamber?
13. If the wall suction is too high, what happens in the suction chamber?
14. What type of bubbling should be observed in the suction chamber if the settings are correct?
15. Why do you need to add water to the suction control chamber?

16. If the suction control chamber is not connected to wall suction and left open to air, the drainage unit is operating by what method?

17. What solution and to what level is the solution added in the 2nd chamber to produce a water seal?

18. Why should the drainage system always be below the chest level?

19. What type of dressing is placed directly over the insertion site and why?

20. How is the placement of the chest tube verified?

21. What 3 things should the insertion site be monitored for?

22. What are 6 complications that may occur with the drainage unit?

23. What would the nurse do in the following complications?

- a. Chest tube accidental dislodged from the chest?
- b. Chest tube disconnected from the drainage unit?
- c. Drainage unit tips over or becomes full?

24. Continuous bubbling in the water seal chamber indicates?

25. When you change a drainage unit how does the nurse prevent air from entering the pleural space?

26. What data would indicate that the chest tube could be removed?