DEATH AND DYING SCENARIOS -1

Directions – Identify the stage of death and dying for each scenario.

SCENARIO 1
Howard is an architect who has recently been diagnosed with advanced colon cancer. He has recently been hospitalized with pneumonia that developed after his last doses of chemotherapy. The night nurse reports that Howard openly talks about the seriousness of his illness and alludes to the fact he has little time to live. When his family comes to visit, Howard does an about face, chatting sincerely about his plans far into the future.

SCENARIO 2
Helen has learned that she has an aggressive form of breast cancer. She will require a radical mastectomy, followed by radiation therapy. Her priest came to visit the night before the surgery and found that Helen wanted to talk about the fact that she will no longer be a complete woman.

SCENARIO 3
Gordon has Huntington's Chorea. He has known this for some time, and the symptoms have become more intense over the past year. Realizing that he will reach a point where his awareness of his environment and other people will deteriorate, he has called his sons together and told them stories of his early life. He hopes that they will pass these stories on to their children.

SCENARIO 4
Mike has an end-stage cardiomyopathy. He keeps his call light on and complains constantly about his roommate, who is extremely ill. Mike feels that he has paid so much money for some peace and quiet and privacy. He can become so verbally abusive to the nurses that it will cause him to become dyspneic.

SCENARIO 5
Randy had lived life to the fullest. He was profoundly overweight, and drank excessively every night. Earlier in his life he had experimented with illicit injectable drugs. Recently, he had been having some fatigue and noticed that his abdomen constantly looked distended. He also noticed that he would bleed profusely, even with the smallest of cuts. When he finally went to the doctor, he was told that he was in an advanced stage of Hepatitis C and that his condition was terminal. Almost overnight, Randy began to eat a balanced diet, never drank alcohol, and began to lose some of his excessive weight. He was overheard saying that his change in habits will make all of the difference in his illness.
DEATH AND DYING SCENARIOS - 2

Directions – Identify the stage of death and dying for each scenario.

SCENARIO 1
Amanda has been told that she has Multiple Sclerosis. She underwent extensive tests before the diagnosis was determined. In the last week Amanda has made an appointment with a doctor in town, whose practice was with a different group of doctors. She told the receptionist that she had been suffering from weakness in her extremities and had some numbness, as well. She never mentioned her diagnosis.

SCENARIO 2
Hal was just told by the doctor that he has a very large aortic aneurysm, and would die if he didn’t have immediate surgery. His family visited him shortly after the doctor left and asked if the doctor had given him any information about his condition. Hal sincerely replied that the doctor had been in, but had not offered any explanation for his current condition.

SCENARIO 3
Margaret had suffered from severe indigestion for over one year. The doctor had prescribed antacids, told her to sleep more upright in bed - using several pillows, and tried several of the medications to decrease acid secretion in the stomach and reduce motility. Nothing seemed to work. After extensive testing, a diagnosis of terminal stomach cancer was rendered. She was overheard saying, “This is so unfair. I have been in such pain for so long and now I’m told I will die. Why has God done this to me?”

SCENARIO 4
Sandra was in such an advanced state of cancer that she knew death was only a few days away. Her son would be married in the next month. Day after day Sandra was found crying profusely about her impending death. Nothing said seemed to alleviate her sadness.

SCENARIO 5
Pat was dying from an oat cell carcinoma that had metastasized to her brain. She drifted in and out of consciousness. When conscious, she would ask for her husband and talk to him about her funeral arrangements - what music she wanted, the fact that she wanted to be cremated, and that she only wanted a memorial service.
1. Define terminal illness

2. List 5 fears people have about dying.

3. Who was Dr. Elizabeth Kubler-Ross?

4. Complete the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage of Dying</th>
<th>What the Patient May Say</th>
<th>Interventions by the Healthcare Provider</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Explain changes in the respiratory system as death approaches.
6. Explain changes in the cardiovascular system as death approaches.

7. Describe the philosophy of hospice.

8. Define:
   a. Living Will
   b. Healthcare Power of Attorney
Principles of Health Sciences
Death and Dying

For each of the following select the best answer.

1. Patients experience emotional stages as they progress through the dying process. Usually these patients ____________.
   a. move through the stages in a sequential manner.
   b. experience each with equal intensity.
   c. go back and forth between stages.
   d. complete each stage before passing on to the next.

2. A dying patient has started to speak with his dead brother. You realize that this is:
   a. due to reduced blood flow to the brain
   b. due to fear of dying.
   c. something that can happen as someone approaches death.
   d. a manipulative gesture.

3. In Cheyne-Stokes breathing ____________.
   a. the patient increasingly hyperventilates until death arrives.
   b. the patient experiences severe episodes of coughing
   c. consists of hyperneic and apneic states
   d. is stridorous

4. If a conscious dying patient believes that death is near, it is best to ____________.
   a. change the subject.
   b. give him privacy by leaving the room.
   c. give hope of a miracle.
   d. stay with him.

5. An elderly woman with terminal leukemia, whose daughter is pregnant states, “If I can live long enough to see my grandchild, I will then die without regret.” This woman is in:
   a. the anger stage.
   b. the bargaining stage.
   c. the denial stage.
   d. the depressed stage.

6. Which physiologic change occurs as death approaches?
   a. The heart delivers more blood to the tissues.
   b. The lungs cannot adequately oxygenate the body.
   c. The heart beats more forcefully.
   d. The blood vessels compensate for the heart.

7. A weak, irregular pulse indicates ____________.
   a. death is hours away.
   b. death may occur in the next few hours.
   c. the body is being adequately oxygenated.
   d. the person is having a heart attack.
8. It is common for a dying person will stay in one stage until death. ____________
   a. true
   b. false

9. In the dying process the heart cannot pump enough blood to meet body needs.
   ____________
   a. true
   b. false

10. As death approaches, we would expect to see a decrease in urinary output.
    a. true
    b. false

11. A person’s eyes may be open even when they are unconscious.
    a. true
    b. false

12. If a person, who received a diagnosis indicating a terminal illness, goes to several
doctors for another opinion, this person is in the _____ stage.
    a. denial
    b. anger
    c. acceptance
    d. depression

13. If a radial pulse cannot be palpated, it might be necessary to take a(n) _____ pulse.
    a. brachial
    b. femoral
    c. apical
    d. temporal

14. If a person realizes that death is a reality and feels tremendous loss, this person is in
    the _____ stage.
    a. acceptance
    b. depression
    c. anger
    d. bargaining

15. As death approaches, the person no longer needs any pain medications.
    a. true
    b. false

16. A grandmother of 4 children and 12 grandchildren began to meet with each of her
    family members. She gave each of them a precious item of her life and explained the
    significance to them. This grandmother is in the _____ emotional stage.
    a. depressed
    b. anger
    c. acceptance
    d. bargaining
Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs

- Physiological
- Safety
- Love and Affection
- Esteem
- Self-Actualization
Maslow's Hierarchy of Basic Needs Quiz

Match the correct level with the letter of the need.

A. Physiological Need
B. Safety Need
C. Love and Affection Need
D. Esteem Need
E. Self-Actualization Need

_______ 1. I'm starving.
_______ 2. Please lock the door.
_______ 3. I hope I won't get fired for that mistake.
_______ 4. I will succeed with that new program.
_______ 5. I wish they would invite me to go to lunch.
_______ 6. I want to chair that committee.
_______ 7. Those people in that office are just mean.
_______ 8. I hope they think my idea was good.
_______ 9. I know I can be class president.
_______ 10. I'm exhausted.