1. When palpating the anterior portion of a patient’s abdomen, you note tenderness in the left upper quadrant. As a knowledgeable OEC Technician, you would recognize that which of the following organs may be involved?

1. The kidney
2. The gallbladder
3. The spleen
4. The liver

Answer: c

Objective: 24-1

Reference: 794

2. A patient complains of severe and sharp pain in the right lower abdominal quadrant. Based on this location, what organ or structure is most likely involved?

1. liver.
2. kidney.
3. spleen.
4. appendix.

Answer: d

Objective: 24-1

Reference: 795

3. You have been called to aid a patient with abdominal pain. The patient states that he recently had his gall bladder removed. As an OEC Technician, you realize that the gallbladder is located in the:

1. left upper abdominal quadrant.
2. right upper abdominal quadrant.
3. lower left abdominal quadrant.
4. lower right abdominal quadrant.

Answer: b

Objective: 24-1

Reference: 795

4. The spleen of a patient has ruptured. Because it is a solid organ, an OEC Technician recognizes that the primary threat to life is:

1. blood loss.
2. pain.
3. infection.
4. inflammation.

Answer: a

Objective: 24-2

Reference: 798

5. An OEC Technician would recognize which of the following situations as acute abdominal emergency?

1. A patient who complains of stomach pain and has bad-smelling gas
2. A woman who says she drank tequila last night and now has stomach pain
3. A child whose sister has hepatitis and who has just vomited for the first time
4. A ski racer who hit a tree and has significant left flank pain.

Answer: d

Objective: 24-3

Reference: 802

6. An OEC Technician knows that the abdomen is located between the:

1. diaphragm and the top of the pelvis.
2. mid-chest and the umbilicus.
3. nipple line and the coccyx of the spine.
4. bottom of the rib cage and the pelvis.

Answer: a

Objective: 24-1

Reference: 795

7. The pancreas is best described as a(n):

1. absorption organ.
2. hollow organ.
3. solid organ.
4. fluid-filled organ.

Answer: c

Objective: 24-1

Reference: 798

8. An OEC Technician understands the major function of most organs in the abdomen when she makes which of the following statements?

1. “The major function of the organs in the abdominal cavity is digestion.”
2. “The basic function of the abdominal organs is the storage of fat.”
3. “The primary role of the organs in the abdominal cavity is the absorption of oxygen.”
4. “The fundamental role of the organs in the abdomen is the cleansing and filtering of blood.”

Answer: d

Objective: 24-2

Reference: 795

9. Upon entering the room of a 62-year-old woman who has an unknown medical complaint, which of the following clues observed during the scene size-up would increase an OEC Technician’s suspicion that the patient is suffering from an acute abdominal condition?

1. She is sweating even though the air conditioning is on “high.”
2. A portable commode is next to the bed.
3. She is lying on her side with her knees drawn up to her chest.
4. She is wearing a nasal cannula attached to oxygen at 2 LPM.

Answer: c

Objective: 24-4

Reference: 793

10. Which of the following statements indicates that an OEC Technician correctly understands the goal of assessing a patient who has abdominal pain?

1. “It is important to determine if the liver is the cause of pain, because that is the most life-threatening condition.”
2. “If the patient has tenderness upon palpation of the abdomen, OEC Technicians should assume that bleeding is the cause.”
3. “It is more important to recognize a possible abdominal emergency than it is to identify the exact cause.”
4. “To best treat the patient, OEC Technicians must identify the exact cause of the patient’s pain.”

Answer: c

Objective: 24-4

Reference: 793

11. A crying 42-year-old woman states that she has sharp abdominal pain that she localizes to her right lower quadrant. When assessing this patient’s abdomen, an OEC Technician would:

1. start the exam by palpating the abdomen in the quadrant farthest away from the one that is painful.
2. avoid palpating the entire abdomen.
3. start the abdominal exam by palpating the right lower quadrant.
4. avoid palpating the right lower quadrant.

Answer: a

Objective: 24-4

Reference: 802

12. With which of the following assessment findings for a patient complaining of abdominal and back pain would an OEC Technician be most concerned?

1. A surgical scar in the right upper abdominal quadrant
2. A pulsating mass above the umbilicus
3. A history of gallbladder disease
4. Patient has recently had diarrhea.

Answer: b

Objective: 24-4

Reference: 801

13. The structures within the abdomen are:

1. protected by ribs.
2. protected by the pelvis.
3. protected by strong abdominal muscles.
4. poorly protected.

Answer: d

Objective: 24-2

Reference: 794

14. Blunt trauma to the upper right abdominal quadrant can injure the:

1. pancreas.
2. spleen.
3. liver.
4. small intestines.

Answer: c

Objective: 24-3

Reference: 795

15. Blunt trauma to the upper left abdominal quadrant can injure the:

1. spleen.
2. liver.
3. pancreas.
4. appendix.

Answer: a

Objective: 24-3

Reference: 796

16. The most common injury to the pancreas results from:

1. impact trauma to the right side of the body.
2. rotation trauma to the upper chest.
3. bicycle accidents in which the abdomen strikes the handlebar.
4. impact trauma to the left side of the body.

Answer: c

Objective: 24-3

Reference: 798

17. In which of the following injuries can the abdominal cavity migrate into the thoracic cavity?

1. A rib fracture
2. An abdominal strain
3. An intestinal tear
4. A tear in the diaphragm

Answer: d

Objective: 24-3

Reference: 799

18. A tear in the abdominal wall that results in protruding organs is called a(n):

1. laceration.
2. evisceration.
3. contusion.
4. abrasion.

Answer: b

Objective: 24-3

Reference: 799

19. As is the case for any rescue situation, management of abdominopelvic trauma must first center on:

1. controlling massive bleeding.
2. keeping the patient and all rescuers safe.
3. achieving proper airway management.
4. stabilizing the patient.

Answer: b

Objective: 24-5

Reference: 805

20. If a scene becomes unsafe for a patient with abdominopelvic trauma, OEC Technicians should:

1. leave the scene.
2. continue to care for the patient and then “load and go.”
3. move the patient to a safer place, so long as doing so does not place rescuers at risk.
4. call for more help.

Answer: c

Objective: 24-5

Reference: 805

21. Because abdominopelvic trauma can result in serious internal injury, OEC Technicians should call for:

1. extra help.
2. a snowmobile for faster transport.
3. a trauma toboggan.
4. EMS as soon as possible.

Answer: d

Objective: 24-5

Reference: 805

22. In most cases, the position of comfort in abdominopelvic trauma is:

1. supine, with the knees bent.
2. in a right recumbent position with the knees bent.
3. in a left recumbent position with the knees bent.
4. in the Trendelenburg position.

Answer: a

Objective: 24-6

Reference: 805

23. In treating an evisceration, OEC Technicians should:

1. apply a sterile dressing and an ice pack.
2. apply a sterile dressing and direct pressure.
3. not put the protruding organs back inside the abdominopelvic cavity.
4. cover the wound with an occlusive flutter-valve dressing.

Answer: c

Objective: 24-6

Reference: 805

24. To prepare a patient with a pelvic fracture for transportation, OEC Technicians should:

1. apply a pelvic binder.
2. place the patient on a scoop stretcher in the right recumbent position.
3. place the patient in a supine position on a backboard.
4. place the patient in a seated position in a toboggan.

Answer: a

Objective: 24-7

Reference: 806

25. Because pelvic fractures can result in large blood losses, OEC Technicians should:

1. give the patient liquids to replace lost body fluids.
2. apply O2 at 6 LPM via a nonrebreather.
3. give the patient glucose.
4. call for ALS to begin treatment to replace lost body fluids.

Answer: d

Objective: 24-8

Reference: 806