

Year 1: Foundations of Physician Assistant (PA) Practice
Subject 3: Patient Assessment and Clinical History

1. What is the first step in patient assessment?

- a) Take vital signs
- b) Ask about allergies
- c) Review medical history
- d) Conduct physical exam

Correct Answer: c) Review medical history

2. Which vital sign indicates heart rate?

- a) Temperature
- b) Pulse rate
- c) Respiratory rate
- d) Blood pressure

Correct Answer: b) Pulse rate

3. What does a high blood pressure reading indicate?

- a) Low temperature
- b) Normal condition
- c) Potential hypertension
- d) Low heart rate

Correct Answer: c) Potential hypertension

4. What does a patient history include?

- a) Family members
- b) All of the above
- c) Lifestyle choices
- d) Symptoms and signs

Correct Answer: b) All of the above



5. What is palpation in physical exams?

- a) Observing physical appearance
- b) Feeling with hands
- c) Listening with a stethoscope
- d) Asking about symptoms

Correct Answer: b) Feeling with hands

6. Which symptom might indicate a respiratory issue?

- a) Chest pain
- b) Abdominal pain
- c) Joint pain
- d) Skin rash

Correct Answer: a) Chest pain

7. What does the acronym OPQRST stand for?

- a) Observation, Pressure, Quality, Response, Time
- b) Onset, Pain, Quality, Reaction, Treatment
- c) Onset, Provocation, Quality, Radiation, Severity, Time
- d) Observation, Pain, Quantity, Response, Time

Correct Answer: c) Onset, Provocation, Quality, Radiation, Severity, Time

8. What is auscultation in physical assessments?

- a) Feeling the body
- b) Listening to sounds
- c) Observing movements
- d) Measuring weight

Correct Answer: b) Listening to sounds



9. What is a differential diagnosis?

- a) None of the above
- b) Final diagnosis
- c) One possible diagnosis
- d) List of potential diagnoses

Correct Answer: d) List of potential diagnoses

10. What is the purpose of a physical exam?

- a) To assess overall health
- b) To make a diagnosis
- c) All of the above
- d) To collect vital signs

Correct Answer: c) All of the above

11. Which condition can be assessed using a throat examination?

- a) Heart disease
- b) Pharyngitis
- c) Thyroid issues
- d) Diabetes

Correct Answer: b) Pharyngitis

12. What is the role of patient history in diagnosis?

- a) Replaces exams
- b) Confirms diagnosis
- c) None of the above
- d) Provides context

Correct Answer: d) Provides context



13. Which symptom is commonly associated with allergies?

- a) Rash
- b) Fever
- c) Nausea
- d) Weight loss

Correct Answer: a) Rash

14. What does a physical assessment help to identify?

- a) General health status
- b) None of these
- c) Only infections
- d) Only injuries

Correct Answer: a) General health status

15. What is the importance of asking about allergies?

- a) None of the above
- b) Determines blood type
- c) Prevents adverse reactions
- d) Confirms identity

Correct Answer: c) Prevents adverse reactions

16. What does the term "chief complaint" refer to?

- a) Treatment plan
- b) Family history
- c) Vital signs
- d) Patient's main issue

Correct Answer: d) Patient's main issue



17. Which tool is commonly used to measure blood pressure?

- a) Thermometer
- b) Sphygmomanometer
- c) Pulse oximeter
- d) Stethoscope

Correct Answer: b) Sphygmomanometer

18. What is the purpose of a neurological exam?

- a) Assess heart health
- b) Measure body temperature
- c) Check respiratory rate
- d) Evaluate brain function

Correct Answer: d) Evaluate brain function

19. What is a common sign of infection?

- a) Low heart rate
- b) Fever
- c) Stable weight
- d) High blood pressure

Correct Answer: b) Fever

20. What are "red flags" in clinical history?

- a) Normal findings
- b) Patient's preferences
- c) Symptoms needing urgent attention
- d) Family history

Correct Answer: c) Symptoms needing urgent attention



21. How often should vital signs be checked?

- a) Every hour
- b) Daily
- c) As needed
- d) Once per visit

Correct Answer: c) As needed

22. What does "history of present illness" include?

- a) Current symptoms
- b) Medication list
- c) Past surgeries
- d) Family history

Correct Answer: a) Current symptoms

23. What role do social factors play in patient history?

- a) Only demographic data
- b) No impact
- c) Minor relevance
- d) Major role

Correct Answer: d) Major role

24. What should a patient be asked about during assessment?

- a) Symptoms experienced
- b) Medication use
- c) All of the above
- d) Recent travel history

Correct Answer: c) All of the above



25. What is a common method to assess lung function?

- a) Blood test
- b) Chest X-ray
- c) Urinalysis
- d) Spirometry

Correct Answer: d) Spirometry

