What are the most important interventions BEFORE administering Isonicotinylhydrazine (Isoniazid)?

DO NOT administer if the patient is using Phenytoin (Dilantin) as this medication can cause Phenytoin (Dilantin) toxicity, monitor liver function tests, administer Vitamin B6 with this medication, and monitor hypotension (will initially result, but resolve itself without intervention)

Rationale: Isoniazid can interact with other medications like Phenytoin, leading to toxicity. Vitamin B6 is given to prevent peripheral neuropathy, a common side effect of Isoniazid

What SHOULD NOT be mixed with antipsychotic medications?

Caffeine and apple juice

Rationale: Caffeine and apple juice can interfere with the absorption and effectiveness of antipsychotic medications, leading to reduced efficacy or increased side effects

What is the most common antipsychotic prescribed to geriatric patients?

Haloperidol (Haldol)

Rationale: Haloperidol is a common antipsychotic used in elderly patients due to its potency and effectiveness in managing agitation, but it carries significant side effects

Why is Haloperidol (Haldol) a high risk medication for treatment of psychopathy with geriatric patients?

Extrapyramidal side effect (as seen with all antipsychotics with prolonged use), dystonia, dyskinesia, temporal mandibular tightening, nuchal rigidity, glossitis (swollen tongue), and esophagitis

Rationale: The elderly are more susceptible to extrapyramidal symptoms and other serious side effects from Haloperidol, making its use risky in this population

What is the most common antipsychotic prescribed to pediatric patients?

Risperidone (Risperdal)

Rationale: Risperidone is frequently used to manage psychiatric symptoms in children due to its effectiveness, though its side effect profile must be closely monitored

What is the most common medication used to treat alcoholism?

Chlordiazepoxide (Librium)

Rationale: Chlordiazepoxide is a benzodiazepine commonly used to manage alcohol withdrawal symptoms and prevent complications like seizures

What are the most important interventions for a patient experiencing alcohol withdrawals?

Monitor the pulse rate and blood pressure every 2 hours for the first 12 hours, every 4 hours for the next 24 hours, and every 6 hours thereafter

Rationale: Close monitoring of vital signs helps detect early signs of alcohol withdrawal complications, such as delirium tremens or seizures, allowing for timely intervention

What are the most important supplemental interventions for a patient experiencing alcohol withdrawals?

Folic acid, Vitamin B1 (Thiamine), and a multivitamin supplement administration as well as adequate food and fluid intake

Rationale: Alcohol withdrawal is associated with nutritional deficiencies, especially of vitamins and minerals. Thiamine (Vitamin B1) helps prevent Wernicke's encephalopathy, a serious complication of chronic alcoholism

How soon will a patient have withdrawals after cessation of opium based medications?

12 hours

Rationale: Withdrawal symptoms from opium-based medications typically begin within 12 hours of the last dose as the body starts to adjust to the absence of the drug

How soon will a patient have INTENSE withdrawals after cessation of opium based medications?

48 hours (will decrease within 2 weeks)

Rationale: Withdrawal symptoms peak around 48 hours after the last dose, with intensity gradually decreasing over the next two weeks as the body adjusts

What is the most common risk associated with Clozapine (Clozaril)

Blood dyscrasia

Rationale: Clozapine is associated with a risk of agranulocytosis, a severe decrease in white blood cells, making regular blood monitoring essential

What are the most common adverse effects of Haloperidol (Haldol) administration?

Drowsiness, insomnia, weakness, headache, and extra pyramidal side e effects such as akathisia, tardive dyskinesia, and dystonia

Rationale: Haloperidol, like many antipsychotics, can cause significant motor side effects, as well as central nervous system symptoms, including drowsiness and insomnia

What is the most basic understanding of psychoanalytic theory?

Every behavior has a meaning behind it

Rationale: Psychoanalytic theory, developed by Freud, posits that unconscious motives and childhood experiences drive behavior, often with symbolic meaning that can be uncovered through analysis

What are the 3 main types of Schizophrenia?
Disorganized: inappropriate behavior and transient hallucinations

Catatonic: Sudden onset mutism, stereotyped position, and periods of agitation
Paranoid: Late life onset, constant suspicion of others, persecution and delusions

Rationale: Schizophrenia manifests in several subtypes, each with distinct symptoms, though these categories have been largely consolidated in recent diagnostic criteria

What does the term flight of ideas refer to?

Skipping between topics, usually unrelated to each other, and being unaware while doing this (e.g. patient refers to religion, the fact that they are not allowed to shout indoors, and that they are missing their chess pieces in within the same paragraph)

Rationale: Flight of ideas is a symptom often seen in manic episodes, where the individual rapidly shifts between topics without logical connections, indicating a racing thought process

What are the most common signs and symptoms of Cushing's syndrome?

Hypernatremia, hypertension, increased blood volume, hypokalemia, hyperglycemia, prone to infection, muscle wasting, weakness, edema, hirsutism (excessive hair), moonface, and a buffalo hump

Rationale: Cushing's syndrome is caused by excess cortisol production, leading to these characteristic metabolic and physical changes

What is the most important intervention for a patient who is not voiding urine?

Hold the patients Potassium (Slow K) medication

Rationale: If the patient is not voiding urine, potassium levels may rise dangerously. Stopping potassium supplementation is crucial to avoid hyperkalemia, which can cause cardiac issues

What is the best intervention for blood perfusion?

Elevate veins, dangle arteries

Rationale: To improve venous return and arterial blood flow, veins are elevated to reduce pressure, while arteries are positioned lower to encourage blood flow, particularly in conditions affecting circulation

How is the Apgar scale scored?

A: Appearance (color all pink, color pink and/or blue, or color blue and/or pale)
P: Pulse (>100, <100, or absent)
G: Grimace (cough, grimace, or no response)
A: Activity (flexed, flaccid, or limp)
R: Respirations (strong cry, weak cry, or absent)

8 – 10 is an ideal situation
4 – 7 requires intervention
0 – 3 requires a full resuscitation

Rationale: The Apgar scale quickly assesses the health of newborns, evaluating five criteria (Appearance, Pulse, Grimace, Activity, and Respirations) to determine if any medical interventions are needed

What is the most important intervention BEFORE a magnetic imaging resonance scan?

Assess for claustrophobia, pacemakers, and metal implants

Rationale: MRI scans use powerful magnets, so it is essential to screen for metal implants and pacemakers, which can be affected by the magnetic field. Claustrophobia may also need to be addressed

What are the most important interventions BEFORE a cardiac catheter?

The patient should have nothing by mouth for 8 – 12 hours prior, empty bladder, inform the patient they may feel heart palpitations or have a strong desire to cough after dye is injected

Rationale: Pre-procedure instructions for a cardiac catheterization include fasting and preparing the patient for potential sensations from the dye injection to reduce anxiety and ensure accurate results

What are the most important interventions AFTER a cardiac catheter?

Keep legs straight and get at least 6 – 8 hours of rest

Rationale: Post-procedure care for cardiac catheterization includes keeping the legs straight to prevent bleeding at the insertion site and ensuring adequate rest for recovery

What is the most important intervention BEFORE a cerebral angiograph?

Ensure the patient is well hydrated, have the patient lay flat and keep flat for 12 – 14 hours post procedure, and encourage fluids

Rationale: Hydration helps flush contrast dye from the body, and lying flat prevents complications like bleeding after a cerebral angiograph

What are the most common signs and symptoms of hypomagnesia?

Tremors, tetany, seizures, dysrhythmias, depression, confusion, dysphagia, and digitalis toxicity

Rationale: Low magnesium levels affect muscle and neurological function, leading to tremors and seizures, as well as complications like digitalis toxicity

What are the most common signs and symptoms of hypermagnesia?

Depression of the central nervous system, hypotension, facial flushing, muscle weakness, deep tendon reflexes absent, and shallow respirations. This condition is an EMERGENCY!

Rationale: High magnesium levels depress neuromuscular and central nervous system function, leading to life-threatening symptoms like respiratory depression

What are the most common signs and symptoms of pheochromocytoma?

Hypersecretion of Epinephrine or Norepinephrine, persistent hypertension, increased heart rate, hyperglycemia, diaphoresis, tremor, pounding in the His bundle/atria ratio

Rationale: Pheochromocytoma is a tumor of the adrenal gland that causes excessive secretion of catecholamines, leading to these cardiovascular and metabolic symptoms

What is the best intervention for pheochromocytoma?

Avoid stress; avoid cold and stimulating foods, and surgical removal of the tumor

Rationale: Reducing stress and stimulation can help manage symptoms, while surgery is the definitive treatment for removing the tumor

What are the most common signs and symptoms of neuroleptic malignant syndrome?

Hyperpyrexia, increased muscle tone, diaphoresis, increased blood pressure, increased pulse, increased respirations, and increased salivary production

Rationale: Neuroleptic malignant syndrome is a life-threatening reaction to antipsychotic medications, characterized by extreme autonomic dysfunction and hyperthermia