

# ***LEGAL MEDICINE 2000***

## **CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION QUESTIONS**

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Answer all 20 questions below. Each question has only one correct answer.

1. Most federal medical malpractice claims are paid by the
  - A. U.S. Mint.
  - B. National Institute of Health, Department of Legal Medicine.
  - C. Judgment Fund Branch of the Financial Management Service.
  - D. Internal Revenue Services, Malpractice Payment Division.
  
2. According to Figure A on Page 9, approximately how many federal malpractice payments are made for each fiscal year?
  - A. 850
  - B. 100
  - C. 300
  - D. 2900
  
3. According to Figure B on page 10, in Fiscal Year 1998 how many dollars were paid for federal medical malpractice claims?
  - A. \$280 million
  - B. \$180 million
  - C. \$75 million
  - D. \$125 million
  
4. Which of the following reflects adherence to the standard of care in shoulder dystocia cases?
  - A. Proper and thorough documentation of the entire pregnancy.
  - B. Anticipation and identification of appropriate risk factors.
  - C. Knowledge of maneuvers to relieve shoulder dystocia, such as the McRoberts maneuver.
  - D. All of the above.

5. What percentage of brachial plexus injuries resolve by the age of 1 year?
  - A. 15%
  - B. 40%
  - C. 79%
  - D. 99%
  
6. The legal concept of informed consent requires that before estrogen replacement therapy is prescribed for breast cancer survivors
  - A. The patient must sign a detailed legal liability waiver.
  - B. Risks and benefits must be discussed with the patient.
  - C. Alternative therapy must first be implemented.
  - D. Hysterectomy must be declined in writing by the patient.
  
7. Some products available through health food stores proclaim their ability to treat menopausal symptoms.
  - A. True
  - B. False
  
8. According to the Institute of Medicine report
  - A. Approximately 98,000 patients die annually as a result of medical errors.
  - B. Medical errors cost the nation almost \$29 billion a year.
  - C. A central reporting system, for error analysis, would be beneficial.
  - D. All of the above.
  
9. Contributing factors in medication errors can include
  - A. Many drugs with similar names.
  - B. Incorrect mathematical calculation of dosages.
  - C. Both A and B.
  - D. Neither A nor B.
  
10. When an autopsy is not required by law, if a physician still wants to perform one, he or she does not need to obtain consent from the legal next-of-kin.
  - A. True
  - B. False
  
11. What is the current nationwide rate of autopsies performed at hospitals?
  - A. 5-10%
  - B. 10-20%
  - C. 25-35%
  - D. 50-60%
  
12. Sale of human organs over the Internet is
  - A. A violation of U.S. Law.
  - B. Permissible, if the total cost does not exceed a \$50,000 threshold amount.
  - C. Encouraged by organ donor organizations.
  - D. None of the above.

13. It is unlawful to sell pharmaceuticals over the Internet if you live in Virginia.
  - A. True
  - B. False
  
14. The legal standard of negligence, as traditionally applied to specialists, requires that specialists possess that degree of knowledge and skill possessed by
  - A. Other specialists in similar circumstances.
  - B. At least 85% of practitioners within the same zip code.
  - C. Recent graduates of the top ten 4-year medical schools.
  - D. All physicians in identical circumstances.
  
15. In the case of *Sheeley v. Memorial Hospital* the obstetrician/gynecologist was permitted to testify because he had
  - A. Written extensively about the procedure in the medical literature, although he never performed it himself.
  - B. Training and experience in the specific procedure in question.
  - C. Previously observed the procedure performed in a hospital setting.
  - D. Personally known the judge for many years.
  
16. Specialists are held to a national standard
  - A. Because of military and other patriotic considerations.
  - B. If both plaintiff and defendant agree.
  - C. That reflects the national basis of medical education and practice.
  - D. Only in surgical subspecialties.
  
17. What is the approximate percentage of malpractice claims that involve drug-related injuries?
  - A. 60%
  - B. 50%
  - C. 30%
  - D. 10%
  
18. Who potentially may be held liable for negligent medication errors?
  - A. Anyone who manufactures, sells and distributes drugs.
  - B. Anyone who prescribes, dispenses or administers drugs.
  - C. Any health care facility that employs the person making the error.
  - D. All of the above.
  
19. Beginning in the year 2000, the AFIP will terminate its association with civilian physicians in order to concentrate primarily on military treatment facilities.
  - A. True
  - B. False
  
20. Veterinary pathology is offered at AFIP.
  - A. True

B. False