STUDY QUESTIONS for Chapter 37

Compare and contrast heart failure in relationship to left ventricular failure, right ventricular failure, signs and symptoms, and treatment options.

Be familiar with cardiac anatomy

What are the different classes?

What is the RAA and how does that affect the cardiac system?

Define cardiac output and ejection fraction.

Know the normal range of ejection fraction.

What is the ejection fraction in most cases of left ventricular systolic dysfunction and what effects are seen in the heart?

What are cardiotonics and when are they used?

What are the actions of cardiotonics?

What are antiarrhythmic agents?

What are the actions antiarrhythmic agent?

Know the types of arrhythmias and description of them.

Know information in BOX 37.2 Understanding Cardiac Conduction Terminology

What are the signs of digitalis toxicity?

What are the different classes of Antiarrhythmics?

Class I—sodium channel blockers

Class IA drugs act to:

Prolong the action potential

Produce moderate slowing of cardiac conduction.

Class IB drugs generally act to:

Shorten the action potential duration

Selectively depress cardiac conduction.

Class IC Drugs The general action includes:

Slight effect on repolarization

Profound slowing of conduction.

Class II—beta-adrenergic (β-adrenergic) blockers

indirectly block calcium channels and block catecholamine-caused arrhythmias

Class III—potassium channel blockers

general action of class III antiarrhythmic drugs is prolongation of repolarization.

Class IV—calcium channel blockers

In general, the class IV antiarrhythmic drugs act by:

Depressing depolarization (phase 4)

Lengthening phases 1 and 2 of repolarization.

Class V—other antiarrhythmics

Drugs such as digoxin, adenosine, and magnesium sulfate, which are used for very specific arrhythmias, are placed in this group

The pre-administration assessment and nursing interventions consist of?

What are the nursing considerations involved in the ongoing assessment of patient on antiarrhythmic medications?

What are important parameters that need to be done when giving an cardiotonic/antiarrhythmic medication?

What patient teaching/education would need to be given to a patient on these medications?

Know about these medications: digoxin, ivabradine, disopyramide, procainamide, lidocaine, propranolol, amiodarone, diltiazem, verapamil, adenosine