

INSTRUCTIONS: All questions have only one correct answer

1. Which of the following signs/symptoms is common in the early phase of the dying process during the last two weeks of life:

1. Altered respiratory pattern
2. Delirium
3. Fever
4. Skin color changes

2. Which one of the following is a recommended treatment for delirium in the last few days of life:

1. Anti-histamine for sedation
2. Darkened room
3. Major tranquilizer (e.g. haloperidol)
4. Short-acting benzodiazepine

3. The death rattle is best managed by which of the following:

1. anti-cholinergic medication
2. deep suctioning
3. laying flat in bed
4. increasing fluids to loosen secretions

4. For the patient on large doses of opioids prior to entering the dying phase, which one of the following is recommended:

1. adjust opioids in relation to opioid toxicities
2. discontinue opioids as mental status declines
3. ignore physical signs of pain as they are unreliable close to death
4. increase opioids for expected worsening pain prior to death

5. In which one of the following scenarios is an opioid indicated in the days prior to death:

1. Any respiratory pattern that is distressing to family members
2. Cheyne-stokes respiration
3. Increased respiratory rate (30-40 breaths per minute)
4. Normal rate with 10 second periods of apnea

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