

## Test Bank - Chapter 01

**Q1:** What is the primary focus to be addressed for the healthcare system of the future as it applies to community-based settings?

**A. Health promotion and disease prevention (Correct)**

- B. Increased access to care
- C. Focus on health in local communities
- D. Encourage compliance with vaccinations

*Rationale: The primary focus for the healthcare system of the future will focus on health promotion and prevention strategies as it relates to the population incorporating primary, secondary and tertiary care. Increased access to care is but one aspect of the primary focus. The focus is on the population level as compared with local communities. Encouraging compliance with vaccinations relates to one aspect of the primary focus. Cognitive Level: Applying Nursing Process: Planning Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q2:** Which statement is accurate related to life expectancy statistics for the United States?

- A. Americans have a longer life expectancy than other world countries.
- B. The United States has increased mortality due to increased avoidable deaths as compared to other countries.
- C. The life expectancy of the United States is decreased compared to other world countries. (Correct)**
- D. As the United States has more economic resources, this leads to an increased life expectancy rate compared with other countries.

*Rationale: Despite spending twice as much as other countries, the United States has a decreased life expectancy. Another factor that contributes to decreased life expectancy of the United States is the high percentage of avoidable deaths. Cognitive Level: Analyzing Nursing Process: Analysis Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q3:** Which statement describes the consequence of the successful implementation of the Affordable Care Act?

- A. Americans will pay closer attention to their health status.
- B. Most of the population will be covered by health insurance. (Correct)**
- C. Public health departments will need to increase the number of nursing positions.
- D. The prevalence of obesity will decrease.

*Rationale: One consequence of successful implementation of the Affordable Care Act might be that the majority of the population would be covered by insurance and public health agencies will not need to provide direct clinical services in order to assure that those who need them can receive them. The Affordable Care Act will not directly cause Americans to pay closer attention to their health status or decrease the prevalence of obesity. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q4:** The public health nurse (PHN) must participate in the essential services of public health. What is one of the essential services of public health nursing?

- A. Monitoring health status by completing a community assessment
- B. Diagnosing and investigating health problems in the world
- C. Informing, educating, and empowering people about health issues (Correct)**
- D. Working in law enforcement to regulate health and ensure safety

*Rationale: The PHN monitors health status in several ways. Completing a community assessment is only one way that health status is monitored. The PHN would not diagnose or solve “world” problems or work in law enforcement. Rather, the PHN would participate with local regulators to protect communities and empower people to address health issues. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Implementation Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q5:** A public health department is using the mission of public health as described by the Institute of Medicine when planning its health programming. Which of the following activities will most likely be implemented?

- A. Tracking COVID outbreaks and doing surveillance in the United States (Correct)**
- B. Providing a flu shot for an elderly person at the health department
- C. Keeping track of alternative therapies in use in the United States
- D. Keeping snake antivenom at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta

*Rationale: The Institute of Medicine’s stated mission on public health is “to generate organized community and technical knowledge to prevent disease and promote health.” Tracking COVID outbreaks and doing surveillance applies this concept at a population level. Providing a flu shot for an elderly person only addresses individual care. Keeping track of the use of alternative therapies does nothing to prevent disease or promote health of the population. Keeping snake antivenom is aimed at disease care for an individual, not health promotion or disease prevention. Cognitive Level: Analyzing Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q6:** A public health department makes sure that the essential community-oriented health services are available in the community. Which of the following core public health functions is being implemented?

- A. Policy development
- B. Assessment
- C. Assurance (Correct)**
- D. Scientific knowledge-based care

*Rationale: Assurance focuses on the responsibility of public health agencies to ensure certain activities have been appropriately carried out to meet public health goals and plans. Policy development seeks to build constituencies that can help bring about change in public policy. Assessment includes activities that involve collecting, analyzing, and disseminating information on both the health status and the health-related aspects of a community or a specific population. Public health is based on scientific knowledge but is not a core function. Cognitive Level: Applying Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q7:** What is the purpose of public health core functions?

**A. Clarifying the role of the government in fulfilling the mission of public health (Correct)**

- B. Ensuring the safety of populations in receiving quality health care
- C. Providing community-based individualized care to every person in the United States
- D. Uniting public and private providers of care in a comprehensive approach to providing health care

*Rationale: As defined by the Institute of Medicine in its 1988 report The Future of Public Health, assessment, policy development, and assurance are core functions at all levels of government for the purpose of clarifying the government's role. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q8:** Which of the following statements about public health is accurate?

- A. Prevention of early deaths can be more effectively accomplished by medical treatment than by public health approaches.
- B. Expenditures and resources for public health have increased in recent years.
- C. Historically, gains in the health of populations have been related largely to changes in safety, sanitation, and food safety. (Correct)**
- D. Reform of the medical insurance system is the single change needed to improve the health of Americans.

*Rationale: Fielding and Tilson (2008) have asserted that most of the increase in life span has been made through improvements in sanitation, clean water supplies, making workplaces safer, improving food and drug safety, immunizing children, and improving nutrition, hygiene, and housing. Medical treatment has not made as significant of an impact on the life span as public health measures. Funding for public health in recent years has been on a gradual decline. Although reform of the medical insurance system may help improve the health of Americans, there are many other factors that will need to be addressed. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care*

**Q9:** A public health nurse (PHN) collects data and monitors the health status of the population. Which of the following core public health functions is the nurse addressing?

**A. Assessment (Correct)**

- B. Prevention
- C. Assurance
- D. Policy development

*Rationale: Assessment consists of systematic data collection and monitoring health status. Prevention is not a core function, assurance is making sure essential services are available, and policy development is needed to provide leadership in developing policies. Cognitive Level: Applying Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q10:** The public health nurse (PHN) compares the rate of teenage pregnancy in various areas of the city. Which of the core functions of public health is the nurse addressing?

- A. Assurance
- B. Assessment (Correct)**
- C. Prevention
- D. Policy development

*Rationale: Assessment refers to systematic data collection, which this nurse is doing for teenage pregnancy. Prevention is not a core function, assurance is making sure essential services are available, and policy development is needed to provide leadership in developing policies. Cognitive Level: Applying Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q11:** A public health nurse (PHN) develops and implements local public health policies through partnerships with agencies, organizations, and consumers within the community. Which of the following core public health functions is the nurse addressing?

- A. Assessment
- B. Prevention
- C. Assurance
- D. Policy development (Correct)**

*Rationale: Policy development deals with developing and implementing health policies. Prevention is not a core function, assurance is making sure essential services are available, and assessment refers to systematic data collection. Cognitive Level: Applying Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q12:** A nurse provides for the availability of essential personal health services for people who would otherwise not receive health care. Which of the public health core functions is the nurse addressing?

- A. Assessment
- B. Prevention
- C. Assurance (Correct)**
- D. Policy development

*Rationale: Assurance deals with the availability of health services. Prevention is not a core function, assessment refers to systematic data collection, and policy development refers to the need to provide leadership in developing health policies. Cognitive Level: Applying Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q13:** The nurse manager makes sure that the staff members who work in a local clinic are competent in their job responsibilities. Which of the public health core functions is being demonstrated?

- A. Assurance (Correct)**
- B. Assessment
- C. Prevention

D. Policy development

*Rationale: Assurance refers to making sure a competent health care workforce is available. Prevention is not a core function, assessment refers to systematic data collection, and policy development refers to the need to provide leadership in developing health policies. Cognitive Level: Applying Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q14:** Which intervention is the nurse most likely to implement when addressing one of the primary goals of public health?

- A. Ensuring that a newly diagnosed 40-year-old hypertensive man takes his medication
- B. Finding home care for a 70-year-old client recuperating from a hip replacement
- C. Conducting an infant car seat safety check (Correct)**
- D. Contacting a local hospice to admit a terminally ill 60-year-old woman

*Rationale: The correct answer is concerned with the health of many people, while the other answers address individual interventions. According to the Core Functions Project, all levels of health care, including population-based public health care, must be funded or the goal of health of populations may never be reached. Cognitive Level: Analyzing Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care*

**Q15:** A community health nurse collects data about the number and proportion of persons aged 25 or older with less than a high school education. Which term best describes this type of data?

- A. Sociodemographic characteristics (Correct)**
- B. Health status data
- C. Health risk factors
- D. Health care resource consumption information

*Rationale: The number and proportion of people is a sociodemographic characteristic. Health status includes birth and death rates. Health risk factors discuss proportions of populations who have particular health conditions or health risks. Health care resource consumption refers to spending on health care per capita. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q16:** The public health nurse (PHN) analyzes data related to the number and type of United States Environmental Protection Agency air quality standards that a community failed to meet. This data is an example of using which community health profile indicator?

- A. Sociodemographic characteristics
- B. Health status
- C. Health risk factor (Correct)**
- D. Functional status

*Rationale: Health risk factors discuss proportions of populations who have particular health conditions or health risks; breathing air of poor quality is a risk to health. The number and proportion of people is a sociodemographic characteristic. Health status includes birth and death rates. Functional status refers to reports of good health status by members of the population.*

*Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q17:** A nurse is implementing quality performance standards in a public health department. Which statement best describes the importance of this action?

**A. Quality performance standards are used to guide improvement in the public health system. (Correct)**

B. Quality performance standards rigidly control public health.

C. Quality performance standards guide administrators to monitor public health at the national level.

D. Quality performance standards can be used as hiring guidelines for nurses.

*Rationale: These standards were developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 1998 and updated periodically (2014). They set the bar for the level of performance that is necessary to deliver essential public health services (PHSs). These standards were developed around the 10 essential PHSs. They focus on the overall public health system rather than on single organizations and describe an optimal level of performance. They are intended to support a process of quality improvement. State and local communities can assess their performance using certain available tools. They are not meant to control public health or be used for hiring guidelines. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Implementation Client Needs: Safe and Effective Care Environment*

**Q18:** To better address emerging public health issues, a public health nurse (PHN) should be aware of the Eight Principles of Public Health Nursing. Which option is one of the principles?

A. Selection of tertiary prevention is optimal

**B. The unit level of care focuses on the population (Correct)**

C. Resources should be limited to commonly occurring health concerns

D. Referrals are not an effective tool to increase access to healthcare

*Rationale: PHNs should be educated in the Eight Principles of Public Health Nursing: (1) client unit of care is the population, (2) treat at a population level to obtain the greatest good for the greatest number of people, (3) health care provider and clients are at equal levels of partnership, (4) primary prevention is a priority, (5) strategies that focus on, healthy environmental, social, and economic are recommended (6) obligation to reach out to anyone who needs assistance from a specific activity, (7) optimal use of resources is a key element, and (8) promotion of interdisciplinary communication is recommended. Cognitive Level: Analyzing Nursing Process: Analysis Client Needs: Safe and Effective Care Environment*

**Q19:** The public health workforce should demonstrate competency in which of the following competency categories?

**A. Financial planning and management (Correct)**

B. Workforce needs assessment

C. Acute care services

D. Curriculum development

*Rationale: Workforce needs assessment, acute care services, and curriculum developments are not considered categories of core competencies of public health. Rather there are eight categories of competency, which include: (1) analytic/assessment, (2) policy development/program planning, (3) communication, (4) cultural competence, (5) community dimensions of practice, (6) basic public health sciences, (7) financial planning and management, and (8) leadership and systems thinking. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q20:** Why is public health nursing considered to be a nursing specialty?

- A. It has a distinct focus and scope of practice. (Correct)**
- B. It requires a master's degree in nursing.
- C. It is focused on disadvantaged citizens.
- D. It performs interventions at the acute care level.

*Rationale: Public health nursing has a distinct focus and requires a special knowledge base. The other answers are not characteristics of a specialty. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Safe and Effective Care Environment*

**Q21:** The necessary basic preparation for public health nursing is what level of nursing education?

- A. Associate degree
- B. Baccalaureate degree (Correct)**
- C. Master's degree
- D. Doctor of Nursing Practice

*Rationale: A Bachelor of Science in nursing (BSN) is the necessary basic preparation to function as a beginning staff PHN. An Associate degree is not enough for basic preparation. A Master's degree or Doctor of Nursing Practice degree would be part of preparation for advanced practice. Cognitive Level: Remembering Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q22:** A public health nurse (PHN) has been prepared at the graduate level. Which activity should the practitioner be able to complete?

- A. Teaching public and community health nursing
- B. Assessing and intervening successfully at the aggregate level (Correct)**
- C. Diagnosing and treating disease while having earned prescriptive authority
- D. Running for political office as experts in public health policy

*Rationale: According to the Consensus Conference, specialists should have assessment skills that allow them to intervene at the aggregate level. Public health practitioners have a broad range of practice areas within public health and are not limited to only nursing and medicine. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Safe and Effective Care Environment*

**Q23:** A public health nurse (PHN) provides clinic-based services for HIV-positive citizens in the community. Which term best describe this activity?

- A. Primary prevention
- B. Health education
- C. Tertiary prevention (Correct)**
- D. Policy making

*Rationale: This clinic is for clients who already have a disease process; therefore, it is tertiary prevention (preventing deterioration in a patient, a relapse, or disability and dependency by anticipatory nursing and medical care). Primary prevention is using general and specific measures in a population to promote health and prevent the development of disease (incidence) and using specific measures to prevent disease in those who are predisposed to developing a particular condition. Health education would involve providing specific education to this population. Policy making is formulating plans by an organization in order to make decisions. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Implementation Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q24:** A nurse is working in the community with an aggregate/population. Who is the nurse most likely to interact with?

- A. Students in a county school system (Correct)**
- B. Christians around the world
- C. A patient in the intensive care unit at the local hospital
- D. People who drink coffee

*Rationale: A population or aggregate is a collection of individuals who have one or more personal or environmental characteristics in common. Members of a community who can be defined in terms of geography or a special interest can be seen as constituting a population. The clients in the first option share a geographical and special circumstance (school) characteristic. Christians around the world are too large of a geographical space. A patient cannot be an aggregate/population as there is no one to interact with. People who drink coffee share a common interest but may not share a common geographical location to interact. Cognitive Level: Applying Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q25:** How is a population best defined?

- A. High-risk group
- B. Those interacting within a school or institutional setting
- C. Collection of individuals who share at least one common characteristic (Correct)**
- D. Geographical location within a community

*Rationale: A population or aggregate is a collection of individuals who have one or more personal or environmental characteristics in common. High-risk groups, school or institutional setting, and geographical location within the community all describe types of populations, not the definition of population. Cognitive Level: Remembering Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q26:** Population-focused practice concentrates on defining the problems or needs of and implementing solutions for whom?

- A. Individuals

**B. Aggregates (Correct)**

- C. Communities
- D. Geographical regions

*Rationale: Aggregates are a defined population made up of individuals in communities of a specific geographical region. Population-focused practice is implemented with defined populations or subpopulations. This is larger than the scope of individual care but may not address the larger needs of the entire community or geographical region. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q27:** A nurse is using a population focus when providing public health nursing care. Which statement best describes the care that is being provided?

- A. Priority is given to the highest risk population.
- B. Direct caregiving is limited to preventive measures, such as administration of immunizations.
- C. Attention is given to the population or community, regardless of whether they do or do not access the health care system. (Correct)**
- D. Only populations outside institutional settings are considered.

*Rationale: PHNs are concerned with the health of the entire population. Priority is given to the entire population, not just the group at highest risk or those outside of institutional settings. Direct caregiving is not the focus of public health nursing care. Cognitive Level: Analyzing Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q28:** A nurse is working in a community health nursing practice setting. Which intervention is the nurse most likely to implement?

- A. Administering a flu shot to a client in a physician's office (Correct)**
- B. Conducting a flu shot clinic at a community center
- C. Performing a client assessment in a hospital
- D. Providing supervision of staff in a rehabilitation center

*Rationale: Community health nursing practice focuses on the health of individuals, families, and groups and the effect of their health status on the health of the whole community. Administering a flu shot to an individual is the only example that meets this criterion. Performing a client assessment focuses only on individual care, not the community. Providing supervision of staff does not focus on the community. Conducting a flu shot clinic at a community center focuses on protecting the community as a whole and would be considered public health nursing practice. Cognitive Level: Applying Nursing Process: Implementation Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q29:** Which statement about community health nursing practice is correct?

- A. It focuses on the delivery of personal health services to individuals and families. (Correct)**
- B. It provides care to protect the health of the whole community.
- C. It emphasizes the setting where care is provided for clients and families.

D. It requires a baccalaureate preparation for practice.

*Rationale: Public health nursing provides care to protect the health of the community as a whole. Community-based nursing practice emphasizes the setting where care is provided for clients and families. It is generally assumed that a graduate of any baccalaureate program has the necessary basic preparation to function as a beginning staff PHN; however, this is not a requirement for public health nursing or community health nursing practices. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care*

**Q30:** A nurse is implementing community-based nursing care. Which intervention is the nurse most likely to complete?

- A. Assessing the health needs of a defined community
- B. Providing care to families in a community (Correct)**
- C. Promoting the health of an entire community
- D. Investigating environmental health problems in a community

*Rationale: Community-based nursing practice is a setting-specific practice whereby care is provided for families where they live, work, and attend school. The focus is on acute and chronic care and the provision of services. Providing care to families is the only intervention that accurately describes this definition. Assessing the health needs of a community, promoting the health needs of an entire community, and investigating environmental health problems in a community would be considered public health nursing practice. Cognitive Level: Applying Nursing Process: Implementation Client Needs: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care*

**Q31:** A nurse is conducting vision screenings on children in the school setting. Which type of nursing practice is the nurse performing?

- A. Community-oriented
- B. Public health
- C. Community health
- D. Community-based (Correct)**

*Rationale: Community-based nursing practice is a setting-specific practice whereby care is provided for clients and families where they live, work, and attend school. Community-oriented nursing emphasizes the prevention of disease and disability. Public health nursing focuses on the care within the whole community. Community health nursing focuses on the health status of individuals and the effect of their health status on the whole community. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Implementation Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q32:** The nurse is investigating environmental health problems caused by contaminated ground water. Which type of nursing practice is being implemented?

- A. Community-oriented (Correct)**
- B. Community-based
- C. Policy development
- D. Tertiary care

*Rationale: Community-oriented nursing emphasizes the prevention of disease and disability. Community-based nursing practice is a setting-specific practice whereby care is provided for clients and families where they live, work, and attend school. Policy development seeks to build constituencies that can help bring about change in public policy. Tertiary care focuses on highly specialized medical care. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Implementation Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q33:** A public health staff nurse (PHN) who has a clear understanding of population-focused practice, would most likely engage in what activity?

- A. Volunteering for a local community action coalition
- B. Performing interventions with individuals in the community
- C. Improving the effectiveness of care provided (Correct)**
- D. Considering earning a PHN certification

*Rationale: Public health staff nurses who have a clear understanding of population-focused care improve their effectiveness and efficiency of practice; have professional satisfaction by seeing how individual care contributes to health at the population level; and appreciate the practice of others who are population-focused specialists. PHN specialists are prepared at the master's level and function in an administrative role. Cognitive Level: Applying Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q34:** Public health nurses (PHNs) are looking to improve population-focused care in the community. Which activity best describes a key opportunity for the nurses to accomplish this goal?

- A. Assuming traditional nursing roles
- B. Influencing public health policy (Correct)**
- C. Conducting community assessments
- D. Specializing in community-based nursing practice

*Rationale: PHNs must move into positions in which they can influence policy formation. They must assume positions that are not traditionally considered nursing. Conducting community assessments is part of public health nursing practice, not necessarily a key opportunity to improve practice. Specializing in community-based nursing practice is setting-specific and does not relate to a key opportunity to improve population-focused care. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Implementation Client Needs: Health Promotion and Maintenance*

**Q35:** A local senator has proposed changes to the health care delivery system in the United States. Based on current trends, what is most likely to occur?

- A. There will be new opportunities provided for public health specialists. (Correct)**
- B. It will result in isolated care being provided to individuals.
- C. There will be an increased emphasis in specialty care.
- D. It will increase the utilization of acute care services.

*Rationale: Proposed changes in the health care delivery system will provide new opportunities for public health specialists and result in the creation of new roles within the system. The proposed changes will build an integrated system (not isolated), decrease emphasis on acute care services,*

*and focus on health promotion and disease prevention. Cognitive Level: Analyzing Nursing Process: Implementation Client Needs: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care*

**Q36:** What are considered barriers to public health nursing? (Select all that apply.) (*Select all that apply.*)

- A. The mindset that the only role for the nurse is at the bedside. (Correct)**
- B. The structures within which nurses work and the process of role socialization within those structures. (Correct)**
- C. Few nurses receive graduate-level preparation in the concepts and strategies of the disciplines basic to public health. (Correct)**
- D. The steady decline in the number of job opportunities in the area.
- E. The inability to equally distribute the increasing funds.

*Rationale: Barriers exist in thinking that nurses only work in a hospital at the bedside, the process of role socialization in public health which can be a very autonomous profession, and that few nurses have had advanced education in public health. The number of job opportunities continues to increase, but the amount of funding allotted to public health continues to decline. Cognitive Level: Understanding Nursing Process: Assessment Client Needs: Safe and Effective Care Environment: Management of Care*

## Review Questions - Chapter 01

**Q1:** How did the report published in 1988 by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) define public health?

- A. What public-private partnerships do to treat vulnerable populations.
- B. What the government does to ensure that vital programs are in place.
- C. What the U.S. Public Health Service does to prevent disease, promote health, and deliver services.
- D. What society does collectively to ensure the conditions in which people can be healthy. (Correct)**

*Rationale: In 1988, the IOM's report stated that public health is "what we, as a society, do collectively to assure the conditions in which people can be healthy." Consequently, the mission of public health is "to generate organized community effort to address the public's interest in health by applying scientific and technical knowledge to prevent disease and promote health." This clearly places the emphasis on the desire of the population and community to ensure access to services that foster the health status of the overall community through the equitable distribution of resources addressed to community problems that affect health.*

**Q2:** Upon reviewing the job description of a public health nurse, the nurse would expect to find a description of a position that focused on which functions?

- A. Monitoring pregnant teenagers for symptoms of complications of pregnancy
- B. Offering free hypertension screening and treatment referral at local health fairs to low-income, uninsured, community members
- C. Partnering with local seasonal farmworkers to design a program aimed at preventing illness and injury, and advocating for this population with local political and community leaders (Correct)**
- D. Preventing injury among a population of elderly residents in an assisted living facility and treating residents' chronic illnesses

*Rationale: The scope of practice of public health nurses is population focused and community oriented, with a primary emphasis on population-level interventions that target strategies for health promotion and disease prevention. In addition, public health nursing is concerned with the health of all members of a population or community, particularly vulnerable populations, and uses political processes as a major intervention strategy. The other options might be specific interventions a public health nurse could implement as part of broader programming.*

**Q3:** A public health nurse leader is encountering barriers when trying to shift the public health agency's efforts to a population-focused practice. What is most likely rationale for the lack of support?

- A. Colleagues' push for nurses to focus on population initiatives.
- B. Costs associated with staff training and revision of documents.
- C. Lack of support from the agency's funding sources.
- D. Opinions that nursing should focus on direct client care and services. (Correct)**

*Rationale: Barriers to implementing population-focused care include lack of understanding of the public health nurse role and its relationship to other roles in nursing, such as direct care and services; workplace role socialization that determines what roles are appropriate and inappropriate or accessible and inaccessible for nurses; and lack of comprehensive training at the graduate level in the disciplines basic to public health such as epidemiology, biostatistics, community development, service administration, and policy formation.*

**Q4:** How can the role and goals of the community health nursing practice best be described?

A. Community-based interventions aimed at promoting, preserving, and maintaining the health of populations residing in institutional facilities such as nursing homes.

B. Education of nurses and other staff working in community-based and community-oriented settings to improve the overall effectiveness of their programs to meet client needs.

**C. Population-level strategies aimed at promoting, preserving, and maintaining the health of populations through the delivery of personal health care services to individuals, families, and groups in an effort to improve the health of the community as a whole. (Correct)**

D. Activities targeted at improving the health status of clients served by community-based health service agencies such as hospice and home health agencies.

*Rationale: Community health nursing practice is the synthesis of nursing theory and public health theory applied to promoting, preserving, and maintaining the health of populations through the delivery of personal health care services to individuals, families, and groups. The focus of community health nursing practice is the health of individuals, families, and groups and the effect of their health status on the health of the community as a whole (individual to families to groups to community flow). This is different from public health nursing, which is the synthesis of nursing theory and public health theory applied to promoting and preserving the health of populations. The focus of public health nursing practice is the community as a whole and the effect that the community's health status, including health care resources, has on the health of individuals, families, and groups (community to groups to families to individual flow). Both community health and public health nursing are considered to be community-oriented practices involving free-living (noninstitutionalized) clients. Community-based nursing practice is setting specific, and care is provided to clients where they live (home health or hospice nursing, community-based clinic), work (occupational health nursing), and/or attend school (school nursing). The emphasis of community-based nursing practice is acute and chronic care (illness care) and the provision of comprehensive, coordinated, and continuous services, usually within a specialty area.*

**Q5:** A community-oriented nurse has identified obesity as a problem in the middle school. The next step in a population-focused practice is to make information available about the health of the middle school students. Which core public health function does this represent?

**A. Assessment (Correct)**

B. Assurance

C. Policy development

D. Research

*Rationale: Assessment is a core function of public health and refers to systematically collecting data concerning the population, monitoring the population's health status, and making information*

available on the health of the community. In a community-oriented approach, a nurse would apply both nursing and public health theory. In this case, assessment would be the first step from the perspective of both theories. Because the practice is population focused and community oriented, it would involve the assessment of the community subpopulation of middle school children and the impact of obesity on their overall health status.

**Q6:** The state public health agency has received multiple complaints regarding the availability of elder transportation services to a specific county senior center. The state agency assigns a public health nurse to work with the community to evaluate its program for elder transportation services to publicly sponsored eldercare programs. Which public health core function does the nurse apply in this situation?

**A. Assurance (Correct)**

- B. Policy development
- C. Primary prevention
- D. Public transportation

*Rationale: The public health core function of assurance focuses on the responsibility of public health agencies to be sure that activities are appropriately carried out to meet public health goals and plans. This involves making sure that essential community-oriented health services are available and accessible, especially to vulnerable populations who would otherwise not receive necessary services. Assurance also includes assisting communities to implement and evaluate plans and practices. Primary Prevention focuses on using general and specific measures in a population to promote health and prevent the development of disease (incidence) and using specific measures to prevent diseases in those who are predisposed to developing a particular condition.*

**Q7:** A nurse planning a smoking cessation clinic for adolescents in the local middle schools and high schools is providing what type of care?

**A. Community-oriented (Correct)**

- B. Community-based
- C. Secondary care
- D. Tertiary care

*Rationale: Community-oriented nurses emphasize health promotion, health maintenance, and disease prevention, as well as self-reliance on the part of clients. Regardless of whether the client is a person, family, or group, the goal is to promote health through education about prevailing health problems, proper nutrition, beneficial forms of exercise, and environmental factors such as the safety of food, water, air, and buildings. Secondary Prevention is focused on stopping the progress of disease by early detection and treatment, thus reducing prevalence and chronicity while Tertiary Prevention focuses on stopping deterioration in a client, a relapse, or disability and dependency by anticipatory nursing and medical care.*

**Q8:** A community-oriented nurse conducts home visits to new parents to assess the health status of the infant, the parent-child relationship, the parents' knowledge regarding the care of the infant, and the need for health department and social services referrals. This can best be described as an example of which type of care?

**A. Clinical community health practice (Correct)**

- B. Community-based practice
- C. Population-focused practice
- D. Public health nursing

*Rationale: Community-oriented nurses who provide direct care services to individuals, families, or groups are engaging in a clinically oriented practice even when they apply concepts of population-focused, community-oriented strategies along with their direct care clinical strategies.*

**Q9:** Nurses consider opportunities for population-focused practice that result from the rapid transformation of health care delivery from a medical model to a health promotion/disease prevention model. What is an example of such opportunity?

- A. Operator of a nurse practitioner-run urgent care center in a major retail location
- B. Director of clinical services providing a wide range of services to populations seen by the system (Correct)**
- C. Clinical director of a home health agency
- D. School nurse position in the local high school

*Rationale: The new focus on populations, coupled with the integration of acute, chronic, and primary care occurring in some health care systems, is likely to create new roles for individuals, including nurses, who will span inpatient and community-based settings and focus on providing a wide range of services to the populations served by the system. Such a role might be director of client care services for the health care system, who has administrative responsibility for a large program area. There will be a demand for individuals who can design programs of preventive and clinical services to be offered to targeted subpopulations and for those who can implement such programs.*

**Q10:** Public health nursing specialists are interested in which of the following topic(s)? (Select all that apply.) (Select all that apply.)

- A. Educational materials for individuals with HIV/AIDS
- B. Evaluation of an outreach program for at-risk pregnant teenagers (Correct)**
- C. Community subpopulations with high rates of type 2 diabetes (Correct)**
- D. New technologies to monitor diabetes
- E. Prevalence of hypertension among various age, race, and gender groups (Correct)**

*Rationale: Public health specialists often define problems at the population or aggregate level as opposed to the individual level. At the population level, public health specialists are usually concerned with more than one subpopulation and frequently with the health of the entire community.*