Employee name: ________________________  Score: ____/____ = % ____

Pediatric Medication Competency Exam
Please circle or write in (where applicable) the correct answer for each question below. There is only 1 correct answer per question.

26. Which of the following methods is appropriate when administering Lasix (furosemide) elixir to a three-month old infant?
   a. Insert a NG tube to administer medication to ensure the infant receives entire dose
   b. Insert syringe along inside of the infant’s cheek and administer medication slowly
   c. Mix medication in 8 ounces of formula and administer medication with feeding
   d. Place infant in upright position and administer slowly using a medication cup

27. To prepare a four-year old for an IV start, what is the appropriate approach?
   a. Start the IV as quickly as possible without telling the child
   b. To prevent the child from becoming scared, tell the child that it won’t hurt
   c. Tell the child it will hurt and may feel like a pinprick
   d. Explain in detail what is going to be done and provide information as to rationale

28. To administer a DPT (Diphtheria/Pertussis/Tetanus) immunization to a four-month old, what is the preferred site?
   a. Deltoid
   b. Dorsogluteal
   c. Ventrogluteal
   d. Gluteus maximus

29. A five-year old patient is in the playroom coloring and drawing with her mother. It is time for her to take a first dose of an oral medication. How should the nurse approach this situation?
   a. Approach the child in the playroom and administer the medication there
   b. Have the patient come out of the playroom, then administer the medication
   c. Approach the mother and have the mother give the medication in the playroom
   d. Leave the medication with the mother and tell her to give it after they leave the playroom

30. A seven-year old post-operative patient has the following pain management orders: Morphine 2.5 mg IM every 3 hours prn pain. The child has only received one dose of Morphine, which was given approximately 12 hours ago. The child is moaning but denies pain. Which of the following statements is true?
   a. The child is having difficulty coping with hospitalization
   b. The child wants attention
   c. The child is probably in pain and afraid of receiving an IM injection
   d. The nurse should assume the child is in pain and give medication every 3 hours
31. Why is it important to calculate fluid maintenance requirements for the pediatric patient?
   a. To ensure adequate absorption
   b. To reduce risk of infection
   c. To ensure adequate liver perfusion
   d. To prevent fluid overload

32. When caring for an 11-year old receiving an aminoglycoside antibiotic (Gentamycin), the nurse should expect the physician to monitor:
   a. Serum drug levels
   b. Electrolyte levels
   c. Glucose levels
   d. Calcium levels

33. When teaching parents how to administer medication to their child, it is important to do which of the following?
   a. divide teaching into three 15 minute sessions
   b. Provide consistency between method of administration in the hospital and what will be done at home
   c. Instruct parents to contact M.D. only if the child has a fever
   d. Let the parents know they can stop medication if the child refuses to take it

34. Symptoms of an elevated theophylline level include:
   a. Nausea, vomiting, bradycardia and drowsiness
   b. Nausea, vomiting, tachycardia and drowsiness
   c. Nausea, vomiting, tachycardia and agitation
   d. Nausea, vomiting, bradycardia and agitation

35. A 12-year old asthmatic on long-term Prednisone should:
   a. Take medication one hour before meals to decrease GI upset
   b. Take medication with food or milk to decrease GI upset
   c. Avoid discontinuing abruptly
   d. B and C

36. A hypokalemic patient requiring diuretics should be given which of the following?
   a. Lasix (furosemide)
   b. Diamox (acetazolamide)
   c. Aldactone (spironolactone)
   d. Diuril (chlorothiazide)
37. Which of the following statements is correct regarding the administration of Tylenol (acetaminophen)?

a. Parents should be instructed to monitor child closely for allergic reactions  
b. Tylenol is a very safe medication with no serious side effects and can be administered as often as needed  
c. Tylenol is the most effective analgesic to treat pain associated with juvenile rheumatoid arthritis  
d. Tylenol overdose may result in severe liver damage

38. A 12-year old is to undergo extensive surgery the following day. The use of a PCA (patient controlled analgesia) pump:

a. Would be a good method of pain management for this patient because it would allow the adolescent to have control over the management of his/her pain  
b. Should be suggested by the nurse so the nurse will not have to assess the patient for pain as frequently  
c. Would not be a good method of pain management because of the child’s age  
d. Should not be used by this child because of the increased chances of addiction

Match the following medications with the most commonly seen side effects.

39. _____ Albuterol (ventolin, proventil) a. Tachycardia, palpitations, increased glucose levels  
40. _____ Ampicillin b. Cushing’s syndrome, gastric ulcer, glucose intolerance  
41. _____ Dilantin (phenytoin) c. Hypotension, bradycardia, gingival hyperplasia  
42. _____ Morphine sulfate d. Rash, diarrhea  
43. _____ Solu-Medrol e. Hypotension, bradycardia, respiratory depression

44. A three-year old weighing 17 kg. is to be NPO with IV fluid at maintenance. What is the child’s 24 hour fluid maintenance requirement?

a. 170 ml.  
b. 850 ml.  
c. 1350 ml.  
d. 1700 ml.

45. When calculating the hourly IV rate for the above patient, the IV rate should be at:

a. 7 ml/hr  
b. 35 ml/hr  
c. 56 ml/hr  
d. 71 ml/hr
46. A six-year old weighing 27 kg. is to receive Zinacef (cefuroxime) 900 mg. IV q 8 hrs. If the usual dose is 75-150mg/kg/day, what action should you take before giving the medication?

   a. Administer the medication as ordered. Dose is within acceptable range.
   b. Contact MD to increase dose
   c. Contact MD to decrease dose
   d. Contact MD to change medication. Cefuroxime is not appropriate for this age group.

47. An eight-year old is to receive Solu-Medrol (methylprednisolone) 31 mg. IV q 6 hr. The medication is available in a 40 mg./ml vial. The appropriate volume to administer is:

   a. 0.20 ml
   b. 0.31 ml
   c. 0.78 ml
   d. 1.29 ml

48. An 11-year old is to receive Luminal (phenobarbitol) 120 mg. The medication is available in a concentration of 130 mg/ml. What volume should the patient receive?

   a. 0.29 ml
   b. 0.92 ml
   c. 1.08 ml
   d. 1.3 ml

49. The parents of a child weighing 13.8 kg. ask for the child’s weight in pounds. The correct response would be:

   a. 6.2 pounds
   b. 13.8 pounds
   c. 27.6 pounds
   d. 30.3 pounds

50. A toddler weighing 14.2 kg is admitted for diarrhea and dehydration. It is estimated that this child is 10% dehydrated. The physician has written the following: Increase the IV fluid to 51 ml/hr (1/2 maintenance). What is the appropriate action?

   a. Administer IV fluid as ordered
   b. Administer IV fluid at 50 ml/hr
   c. Call physician to obtain an order for a decrease in rate
   d. Call physician to obtain an order for an increase in rate

Employee’s signature: _____________________________ Date: _________