

ACTIVE LEARNING TEMPLATE: *Diagnostic Procedure*

STUDENT NAME _____

PROCEDURE NAME _____ REVIEW MODULE CHAPTER _____

Description of Procedure

Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is a retrovirus that is transmitted through blood and body fluids (semen, vaginal secretions). HIV is found in feces, urine, tears, saliva, cerebrospinal fluid, cervical cells, lymph nodes, corneal tissue, and brain tissue, but epidemiologic studies indicate that these are unlikely sources of infection.

Indications

1. Manifestations occur within 2 to 4 weeks of infection.
2. Manifestations are similar to those of influenza and can include a rash and a sore throat.
3. This stage is marked by a rapid rise in the HIV viral load, decreased CD4+ cells, and increased CD8 cells.
4. The resolution of manifestations coincides with the decline in viral HIV copies.
5. Lymphadenopathy persists throughout the disease process.

Interpretation of Findings

HIV infection is one continuous disease process.

The three stages include;

1. Progression of HIV infection
2. Chronic asymptomatic infection
3. AIDS

It is transmitted through body fluids such as semen, vaginal secretions and blood.

Potential Complications

1. Opportunistic infections

CONSIDERATIONS

Nursing Interventions (pre, intra, post)

Pre

1. Assess risk factors (sexual practices, IV drug use).
2. Monitor fluid intake/urinary output.
3. Obtain daily weights to monitor weight loss.
4. Monitor nutritional intake.
5. Monitor electrolytes

Intra

1. Infectious disease services may be consulted to manage HIV.
2. Respiratory services may be consulted to improve respiratory status and provide portable oxygen.
3. Nutritional services may be consulted for dietary supplementation. Food services can be indicated for clients who are homebound and need meals prepared.
4. Rehabilitation services may be consulted for strengthening and improving the client's level of energy.
5. Refer the client to local AIDS support groups as appropriate.

Post

1. Therapy

Client Education

1. Educate the client about the adverse effects of the medications and ways to decrease the severity of adverse effects.
2. Educate the client about the need to take medications on a regular schedule and to not miss doses. Missed medication doses can cause drug resistance

Nursing Interventions

1. Assess risk factors (sexual practices, IV drug use).
2. Monitor fluid intake/urinary output.
3. Obtain daily weights to monitor weight loss.
4. Monitor nutritional intake.
5. Monitor electrolytes.
6. Assess skin integrity (rashes, open areas, bruising).
7. Assess pain status.
8. Monitor vital signs (especially temperature).
9. Assess lung sounds/respiratory status (diminished lung sounds).
10. Assess neurological status (confusion, dementia, visual changes).