Chapter 2: The Organizational Context of Healthcare Social Work Practice

Multiple Choice
1. Considering a hospital in terms of systems theory, an input of a hospital would be _____.
   a. Patient care
   b. Staff characteristics
   c. Research
   *d. Patients

   @ Cognitive domain: Knowledge; Answer location: Healthcare Organizations; Question type: MC

2. All of the following are components of palliative care except ___________________.
   a. Provides nonaggressive supportive care
   b. Provided by a multidisciplinary team
   *c. Patient must have a terminal prognosis of 180 days or less
   d. Is provided in inpatient, outpatient, and hospice settings.

   @ Cognitive domain: Comprehension; Answer location: End-of-Life; Question type: MC

3. Once established, the _____________________________ determines operational decision making, goal setting, and ultimately patient care practices.
   *a. Organizational mission
   b. Legislation
   c. Environmental factors
   d. Bureaucracies

   @ Cognitive domain: Comprehension; Answer location: Healthcare Organizations; Question type: FIB

4. _____________________________ are examples of “host settings” for a social worker.
   *a. Hospitals/schools/law enforcement agencies
   b. Utilization review departments
   c. Service lines
   d. Vocational rehabilitation centers

   @ Cognitive domain: Knowledge; Answer location: Social Work Challenges In Contemporary Healthcare Organizations; Question type: MC
5. You are working to discharge Mary, an 87-year-old woman, who was hospitalized after she fell and broke her hip at home. The patient successfully underwent surgery but will need to transfer her care to an ECF. Her physician has certified that she is medically in need of continued care, and the patient is in agreement. She will need physical therapy, occupational therapy, nursing care, and assistance with her activities of daily living. What type of facility will you contact to coordinate Mary’s discharge?
   a. Residential care facility
   b. Intermediate care facility
   *c. Skilled care facility
   d. Continued hospitalization

@ Cognitive domain: Application; Answer location: Long-term Care: Extended Care Facilities: Question type: MC

6. All of the following are examples of organizational structure except _____.
   a. Tallness or flatness
   b. Span of control
   c. Unity and chain of command
   *d. Homeostasis or balance

@ Cognitive domain: Comprehension; Answer location: Healthcare Organizations Question type: MC

7. ______________________ describes the general atmosphere of an organization, including the pace of work and level of trust that affect employee morale and attitude.
   a. Organizational mission
   *b. Organizational climate
   c. Organizational culture
   d. Organizational context

@ Cognitive domain: Comprehension; Answer location: Healthcare Organizations: Question type: MC

8. The prospective pricing system (PPS) uses ______________________ with predetermined reimbursement limitations for specific procedures and conditions.
   a. Fee-for-service
   *b. Diagnostically related groupings (DRGs)
c. Medical homes 
   d. Gatekeepers

@ Cognitive domain: Knowledge; Answer location: Social Work Challenges In Contemporary Healthcare Organizations: Question type: MC

9. With __________________________, an enrollee pays a premium to a health insurer, and the health insurer contracts with separate providers to deliver healthcare services. Providers can charge anything above a stipulated amount and collect the remainder directly from the patient.
   a. Managed care organizations (MCOs)
   b. Health maintenance organizations (HMOs)
   *c. Indemnity insurance
   d. Preferred provider organizations (PPOs)

@ Cognitive domain: Knowledge; Answer location: The Advent Of Managed Care: Question type: MC

10. ___________________________ is a focus of the affordable care organizations (ACOs).
   *a. Integrated care and collaboration
   b. Outliers
   c. Entitlement programs
   d. Palliative care

@ Cognitive domain: Comprehension; Answer location: The Affordable Care Act And Accountable Care Organizations: Question type: MC

11. ____________________________ evolved as a mechanism to address problems with continued fragmentation within larger health systems and across different service-delivery systems.
   a. Utilization review
   b. Employee assistance programs (EAPs)
   *c. Case management
   d. Host settings

@ Cognitive domain: Comprehension; Answer location: The Healthcare System As A Service Continuum; Question type: MC

12. Health-promotion and disease-prevention programs are typically sponsored by all of these organizations except _____.
   a. Hospitals
b. Neighborhood clinics
   c. Employee assistance programs (EAPs)
   *d. Professional licensure bodies

@ Cognitive domain: Knowledge; Answer location: Health-Promotion and Disease-Prevention Programs: Question type: MC

13. Carla has been hired to coordinate the care of patients and families as they move through the healthcare continuum. She will be practicing ________________.

   *a. Continuity-of-care planning
   b. Organizational leadership
   c. Home healthcare
   d. Homemaker services

@ Cognitive domain: Comprehension; Answer location: Evolution of Medical Social Work Practice: Question type: MC

14. A ________________ trauma center provides the highest level of care.

   *a. Level I
   b. Level II
   c. Level III
   d. Level IV

@ Cognitive domain: Knowledge; Answer location: Tertiary Care: Question type: MC

15. A social worker in a primary care office meets with a patient who has multiple health issues. This is the patient’s first meeting with the primary care physician, but the patient has an established relationship with a neurologist and a cardiologist. In order to assist with coordinating this patient’s care, the social worker will provide ________________ to help negotiate the transaction of healthcare resources of the various providers.

   a. Biopsychosocial assessment
   b. Education
   c. Counseling
   *d. Boundary spanning

@ Cognitive domain: Comprehension; Answer location: Primary Care: Question type: MC

16. Hospice benefits are covered by ________________ if they are provided by a Medicare-certified agency.

   *a. Medicare hospital insurance (Part A)
b. Medicaid  
c. Medicare Part B  
d. Medicare Part D  

@ Cognitive domain: Knowledge; Answer location: End-of-Life Care; Question type: MC

17. According to systems theory, when assessing organizational process, the outcomes would be __________.  
   a. The characteristics of patients  
   b. Identification of strengths as well as opportunities for growth  
   *c. How success is evaluated  
   d. Identification of unique services and programs  

@ Cognitive domain: Comprehension; Answer location: Healthcare Organizations; Question type: MC

18. ________________________ is usually provided at a patient’s first contact with the healthcare delivery system and involves the diagnosis of illnesses and diseases and provision of initial treatment.  
   *a. Primary care  
   b. Emergency services  
   c. Secondary care  
   d. Urgent care  

@ Cognitive domain: Comprehension; Answer location: Primary Care; Question type: MC

19. The majority of not-for-profit hospitals tend to be located in _________________.  
   a. Small to medium-sized towns  
   *b. Rural areas  
   c. Suburban areas  
   d. Metropolitan areas  

@ Cognitive domain: Knowledge; Answer location: Healthcare Organizations; Practice; Question type: MC

True/False

1. The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1981 included the provision that services to Medicare patients in the hospital setting must be provided by professional licensed social workers.
2. End-of-life issues are the most common basis for ethical dilemmas faced by social workers.
   *a. True
   b. False
   @ Cognitive domain: Comprehension; Answer locations: End-Of-Life Care; Question type: TF

3. Hospice care has been shown to hasten death.
   a. True
   *b. False
   @ Cognitive domain: Knowledge; Answer location: End-Of-Life Care; Question type: TF

4. In order for Medicare to pay for skilled home health services, the patient must be homebound.
   *a. True
   b. False
   @ Cognitive domain: Knowledge; Answer location: Long-Term Care; Question type: TF

5. States mandate all nursing homes employ at least one social work at the BSW or MSW level to coordinate the care of the residents.
   a. True
   *b. False
   @ Cognitive domain: Knowledge; Answer location: Long-Term Care; Question type: TF

6. One of the downsides of ambulatory care is that it is costly to provide.
   a. True
   *b. False
   @ Cognitive domain: Comprehension; Answer location: Ambulatory Care; Question type: TF

7. A benefit of the individual mandate of the PPACA is to reduce “cost-shifting.”
   *a. True
   b. False
8. The norms, values, customs, and behaviors with which employees are expected to comply is the organizational climate.
   a. True
   *B. False

9. One benefit of utilizing the matrix management model in a hospital setting has been an increase in the number of social work departments that are headed by a social work director.
   a. True
   *b. False

10. Romer considers tertiary care the apex of healthcare services.
    *a. True
    b. False

Short Answer/Essay
1. A social worker employed by an organization such as a hospital in which the primary purpose is something other than the provision of social work is working in a _________________.
   *a. Host setting

2. A(n) __________________________ is a macro system that is goal directed, consisting of units that are “deliberately structured” with coordinated activities and processes.
   *a. Organization

3. __________________________ care is provided to individuals who are not inpatients in a healthcare institution.
4. You have been called to the hospital emergency room because the attending physician states there is a patient in the emergency room that will probably not survive the night. The patient does not have any legal kin or advanced care directives on file, and he is not conscious. The physician states that in his medical opinion, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) would be futile care. He states he has already discussed the case with the patient’s primary care provider, and they are in agreement about the futility of care. Name two of the ethical considerations you would want to make sure are addressed.


5. As Ida Cannon realized, practicing social work in a host setting presents special challenges. You have been hired as the first social worker in a primary care office. You have been asked to show how you will bring added value to the organization. Describe three types of social work interventions you will provide and the positive fiscal impact they will have on the healthcare organization.

   *a. Rapid psychosocial assessment/care planning – patient treatment compliance, with impacts on reduced length of hospitalization (LOS) and otherwise unnecessary readmission while enhancing prospects of patient recovery and satisfaction with delivered care and health. b. Patient and family counseling – Knowledgeable compliance with treatment leading to enhanced prospects for recovery while performing a crucial risk-management function by reducing potential patient/family litigation associated with miscommunication. c. Resource referral - Securing financial assistance for treatment reduces monetary burden to patient/family; contributes to organizational reimbursement. Use of available, less expensive community resources reduces patient hospital reliance. d. Outpatient clinic intervention – patient treatment compliance; securing of outside resources needed for efficient, uninterrupted use of crucial health care; avoidance of unnecessary inpatient admissions.