**CONTINUING EDUCATION TEST**

**MULTISTEP ALGORITHM TESTING ACCURATELY IDENTIFIES C. DIFFICILE PATIENTS WHO NEED TREATMENT and NEW GUIDELINES AND STUDIES SUGGEST IMPROVED APPROACHES TO C. DIFFICILE TESTING**

July 2018 (This form may be photocopied. It is no longer valid for CEUs after January 31, 2021.)

**TEST QUESTIONS**
Circles must be filled in, or test will not be graded. Shade circles like this: ☐ Not like this: ☑

1. **C. difficile** has surpassed ________ and is now the most common healthcare-acquired infection.
   - a. VRE
   - b. flu
   - c. MRSA
   - d. rotavirus

2. **C. difficile** is known to cause
   - a. colitis.
   - b. antibiotic-associated diarrhea.
   - c. both a and b
   - d. neither a nor b

3. What country has seen declining cases of **C. difficile** due to educational awareness and multistep algorithmic diagnostic testing methods?
   - a. United Kingdom
   - b. Canada
   - c. Europe
   - d. United States

4. Which strain of **C. difficile** has emerged across the world, quickly increasing the incidence of **C. diff**?
   - a. 014
   - b. 02
   - c. 025
   - d. 027

5. **C. difficile** infection (CDI) can be challenging to diagnose because it can be asymptomatic or subclinical in some patients.
   - a. True
   - b. False

6. Which in vitro test(s) is/are on the market today to detect **C. difficile**'s types of analytes?
   - a. tcdB/tcdA and GDH
   - b. GDH and toxins A and B
   - c. tcdB/tcdA and toxins A and B
   - d. tcdB/tcdA, toxins A, and B, and GDH

7. The use of which test as a standalone test has led to a low positive predictive value and overdiagnosis of **C. difficile**?
   - a. GDH immun assay culture
   - b. NAA T testing
   - c. rapid toxin A and B testing
   - d. both a and c

8. Which analyte is produced by toxin and nontoxin-producing **C. difficile** and gives a good positive predictive value?
   - a. GDH
   - b. NAA T
   - c. toxin A/B
   - d. none of the above

9. The detection of toxins A/B demonstrates that the patient has less severe disease and symptoms.
   - a. True
   - b. False

10. What is the specimen of choice for the detection of toxins A/B?
    - a. serum
    - b. fecal
    - c. tissue
    - d. gastric fluid

11. What is/are the main limitation(s) of the highly sensitive CCNA assay?
    - a. It is expensive.
    - b. It requires highly skilled lab scientists to perform and interpret the results.
    - c. It is tedious and time-consuming.
    - d. none of the above

12. Which society(ies) recommend(s) algorithm approaches for the accurate diagnosis of **C. difficile**?
    - a. ESCMID
    - b. IDSA
    - c. SHEA
    - d. all of the above

13. The algorithm approach to the accurate diagnosis of **C. difficile** recommends using NAAT or GDH as a screening step, followed by a high-performing toxin A/B assay.
    - a. True
    - b. False

14. Evidence from clinical trials has changed the treatment preference for CDI. Instead of metronidazole, clinicians now tend to prefer ________ for adults.
    - a. vancomycin/flagelomicin
    - b. penicillin
    - c. erythromycin
    - d. clindamycin

15. For patients with recurring **C. difficile** infections, the recommendation for treatment is
    - a. antibiotics along with steroid administration.
    - b. increased dosing of antibiotics.
    - c. fecal transplants.
    - d. none of the above

16. Molecular testing needs to continuously evolve in terms of detectable strain types because the strain patterns are continuously changing.
    - a. True
    - b. False

17. According to the article by Dunbar, what percentage of hospital patients are carriers of **C. difficile**?
    - a. 10
    - b. 20
    - c. 30
    - d. 40

18. In one study, what was done to help control the spread of nosocomial **C. difficile** to at-risk noncolonized patients?
    - a. screening all admitted patients and isolating the asymptomatic carriers
    - b. treating all carriers with high doses of antibiotics at the time of admission
    - c. assigning all at-risk patients to isolation rooms
    - d. none of the above

19. The investigators in the study described in question 18 say that their approach resulted in a decrease of ________ percent of expected hospital-acquired **C. difficile** infections.
    - a. 15
    - b. 28
    - c. 46
    - d. 62

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