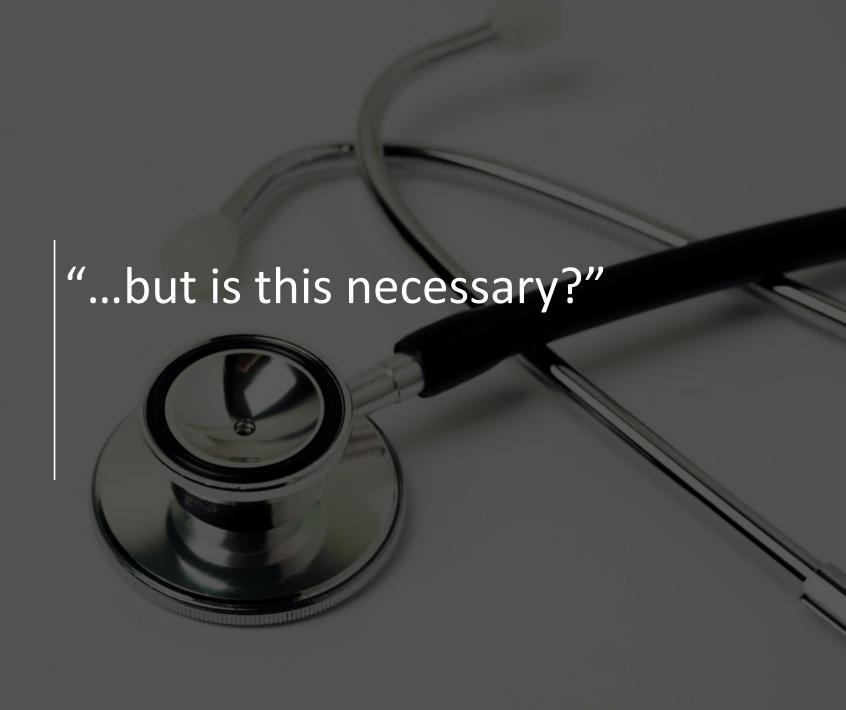
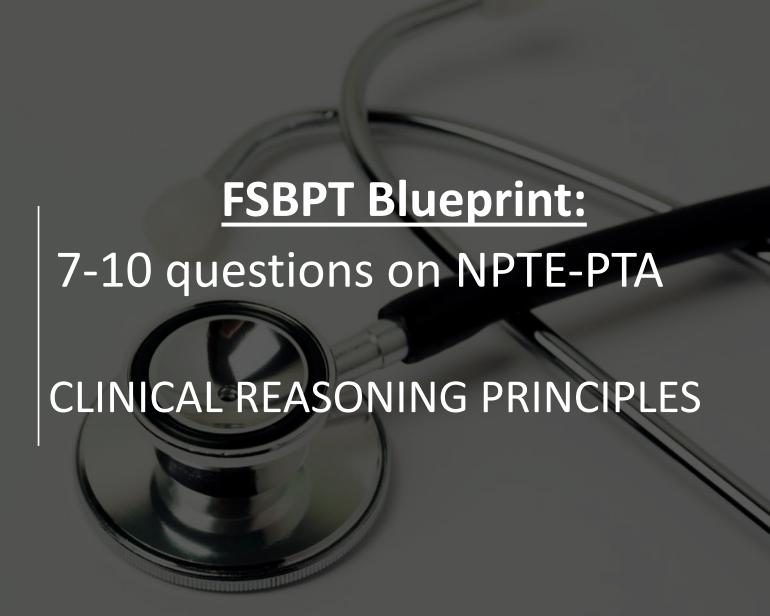




- 1. Content Review
- 2. Principles of Clinical Reasoning

- 1. Content Review
- 2. Principles of Clinical Reasoning
- 3. Integration of Test Taking Strategies





### **Content Area**

# Questions

Safety,
Protection and
Professional
Responsibilities

Data Collection:

~ 33

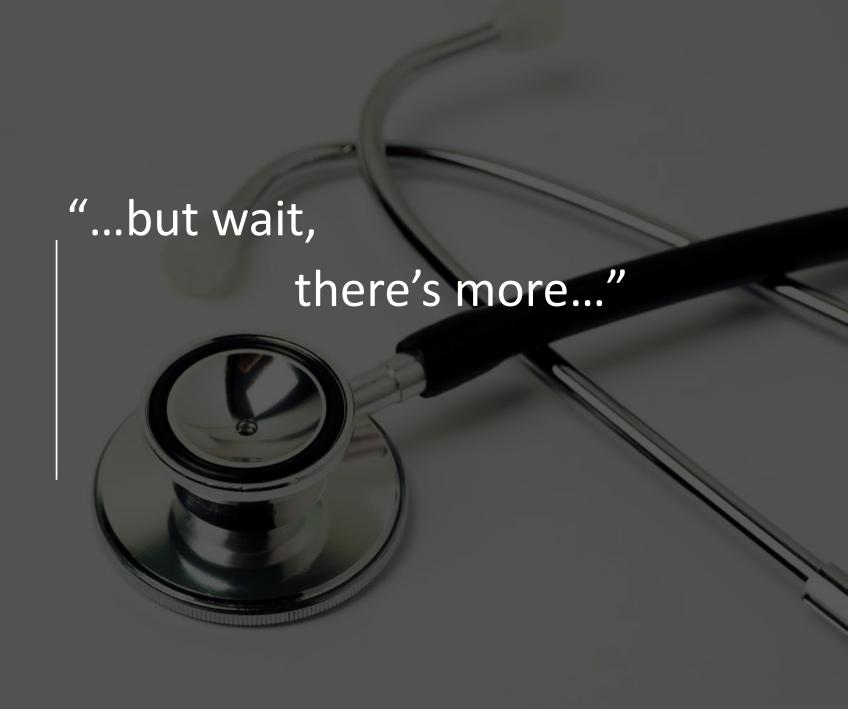
• Diseases/Conditions that Impact Effective Treatment: ~ 40.5

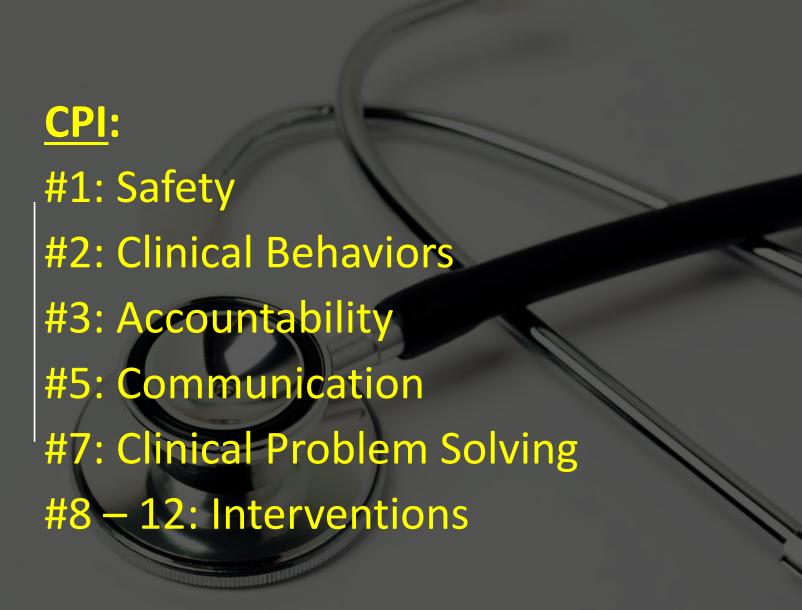
Interventions:

~ 47.5

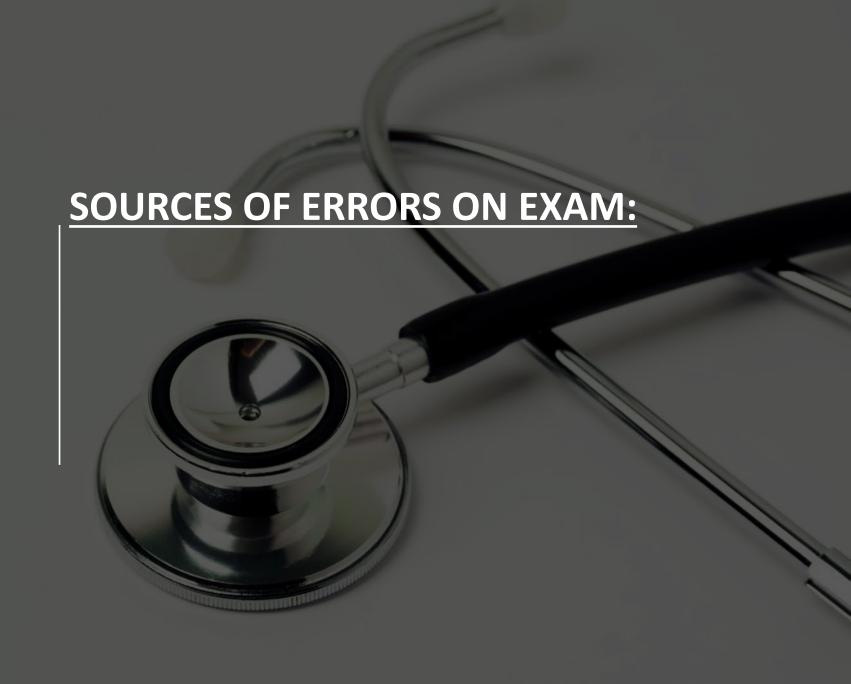
+ Clinical Reasoning Principles

"Much more than 7-10"





# CPI: #1: Safety... #2: Clinical Behaviors.....Red Flag #3: Accountability.....Red Flag #5: Communication.....Red Flag #7: Clinical Problem Solving....Red Flag #8 – 12: Interventions



### **SOURCES OF ERRORS ON EXAM:**

- 1. Test-Taking Mistakes
- 2. Academic Errors
- 3. Decision-Making Mistakes

### 1. Content Review

- 2. Principles Surrounding Content
- 3. Test Taking Strategies for Content

# **Emergent Situations**

S/S, Etiology and Response - ACTION

The Unresponsive Patient

- Calling a Code
  - Technique for CPR

### **Technique for CPR**

- Rate: 100 120/min
- Depth of Compressions:
  - Infant and Child: 1/3 AP depth
  - Adult: At least 2"
- Ratio:
  - Infant/Child: 30:2 or 15:2 (2 person)
  - Adult: 30:2

### S/S, Etiology and Response - **ACTION**

- Autonomic Dysreflexia
  - **SCI**: Above T6
  - **S/S**: HTN, Bradycardia, Headache...
  - Etiologies: Bladder, catheter...
  - Response:
    - Positioning
    - Etiology
    - Vitals

S/S, Etiology and Response - ACTION

- CVA or MI
- Hyper/Hypo...Tension (Norms)
- Hyper/Hypo...Glycemia
- DVT / PE
- Seizure / Shock

S/S, Etiology and Response

- Hyperglycemia:
  - Thirst & Urination
- Hypoglycemia:
  - Hunger, Confusion, Agitated, Headache, Weakness

S/S, Etiology and Response

- DVT / PE
- Seizure:
  - Airway. Head. Safety. Vomiting.
- Shock: Hypovolemic: Fluid loss
  - Hypotension. Hypothermic.
  - Rapid, shallow pulse.
  - Alter mental status. Weakness.
  - **SUPINE**: Elevate LEs

# **Emergent Situations:**

Disaster Response:

- RACE:
  - Rescue, Alarm, Contain, Exit
- First Aid Techniques

# Regulations

- HIPAA, OSHA
- ADA and Accessibility Requirements:
  - Doorways:
    - 32" width min
  - Hallway:
    - 36" width
  - Turns:
    - 60"
  - Ramp:
    - 36" wide.
    - 1" rise: 12" run

### **Injury Prevention Measures**

- Environmental Set-up
- Body Mechanics
  - Types of Lifts
  - When each best to be used
  - Role of the Pelvis

### **Regulations and PTA Practice**

**Reporting Fraud** 

**Recognizing the Signs of Abuse** 

**Reporting Abuse** 

**Professional Boundaries:** 

- The "DC" Summary, Eval, Interpretation
- Use of Physical Therapy Aides

### **Prevention Strategies:**

### **Infection Control:**

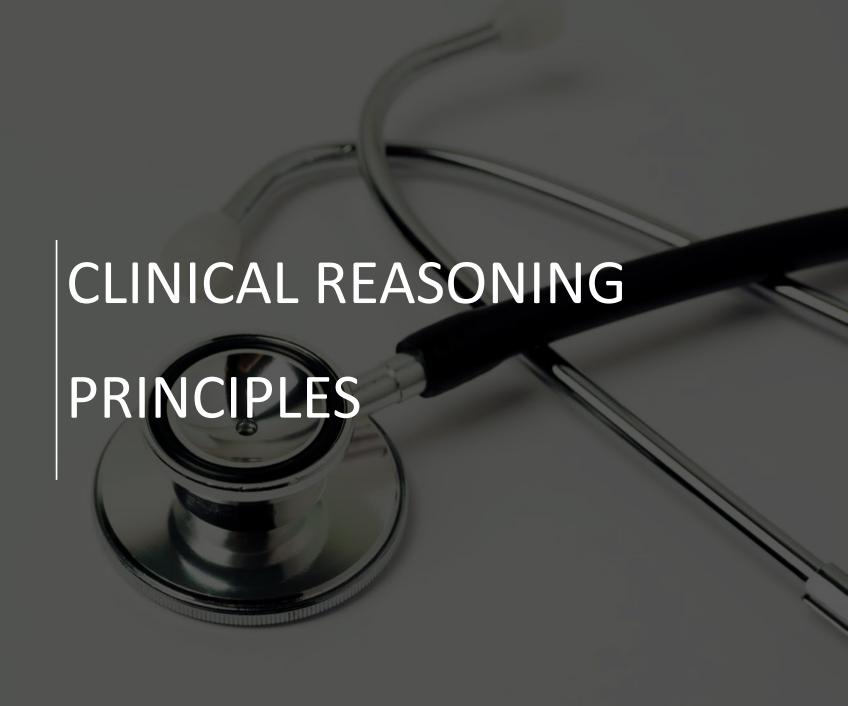
- Standard Precautions
- Transmission-Based Precautions

PPE: Mask. G, G & G. Booties & Footwear

- Airborne: TB, Measles, Chicken pox
- Droplet: Pneumonia, Strep, Flu
- Contact: C-Diff, Herpes, Scabies, Ebola

### Signs of Infection:

Local – Systemic – VS – Cognition – (UTI)



"Problem Solving Algorithm Utilized by PTAs in Patient/Client Intervention" 2007 APTA



"Problem Solving Algorithm Utilized by PTAs Patient/Client Intervention"

**FIRST 4 QUESTIONS:** 

PRINCIPLES: PATIENT SAFETY & PROTECTION

as well as

**PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES** 

"Problem Solving Algorithm Utilized by PTAs Patient/Client Intervention"

- Question 1: Seeking clarification prior to Rx
- Question 2: Collecting and comparing data prior to Rx
- Question 3: Monitoring the patient for safety and comfort during interventions.
- Question 4: Determining if modifications to given intervention(s) will ensure patient safety and comfort or if an intervention needs to be terminated and the PT informed.

"Problem Solving Algorithm Utilized by PTAs Patient/Client Intervention"

Clinical Reasoning and Decision-Making Principles

# Communication And Clarity

Prediction and Prevention

Prerequisites and Precautions

# Monitoring and Modifications

# Communication nand Clarity: Regarding Patient and Intervention

### **SEEK FIRST TO UNDERSTAND:**

- Part I: Before you meet Patient
- Part II: Before you begin Rx
- Sources:
  - Medical Record
  - Physical Therapist
  - Patient
- **REQUIRES**: Wisdom
  - Where to look for What
  - Communication Skills: How to ask

Our first step in determining if this patient is safe for the given intervention

Communication and Clarity:
Regarding
Patient
and
Intervention

### **APPLICATION TANGENT:**

### **Inattentional Blindness**

"Looking is not seeing"

# Communication nand Clarity: Regarding Patient and Intervention

### **APPLICATION TANGENT:**

### **Inattentional Blindness Prevention**

- Read the question twice
  - Priority Terms
- "You must fly the weather you are in, not the forecast"
  - Do not read into the question or options.

# Communication and Clarity: Regarding Patient and Intervention

#### **SEEK FIRST TO UNDERSTAND:**

- Part I: Before you meet Patient
- Part II: Before you begin Rx
- Sources:
  - Medical Record
  - Physical Therapist
  - Patient
- REQUIRES: Wisdom
  - Where to look for What
  - Communication Skills: "What to ask"

Our first step in determining if this patient is safe for the given intervention

# Prerequisites and Precautions for Intervention

#### **PREREQUISITES:** For Safe Participation

Posture and Positioning

- Level of Comfort: Physical and Emotional
- Strength and ROM
- Weight bearing and balance
- Endurance: Muscular or Cardiopulmonary
- Cognition

#### **PRECAUTIONS:** Regarding Safe Participation

- HPI-related
- Positional: Orthostasis/Orthopnea
- Weight Bearing or Lifting Restrictions
- Cardiopulm/Ortho/Neuro/Integumentary/Metabolic
- Pain/Anxiety

# Prerequisites and Precautions for Intervention

### **Application to an Exam Question**

• Does the answer option *violate* a prerequisite or a precaution

### **Example:**

- If the stem involves a patient who is PWB'g on their RLE, you can safely dismiss options that require that patient to:
  - Stand unsupported
  - Use only a unilateral AD for locomotion
  - Activities requiring equal weight on BLEs

# Prerequisites and Precautions for Intervention

### **Application to an Exam Question**

 Does the answer option violate a prerequisite or a precaution

### Example:

- If the stem involves a patient who is PWB'g on their RLE, you can safely dismiss options that require that patient to:
  - Stand unsupported Functional Reach Test
  - Use only unilateral AD Gait, transfer or TE
  - Activities requiring equal weight on BLEs –
     Functional Mobility

### "BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND"

#### **Predictions** are based on:

- Diagnosis
- HPI and Co-morbidities
- PMH
- Environment
- Acuity of symptoms

### **Prevention strategies:**

- Directly related to Predictions
- Directs your use of Modifications
- Dictates the Metrics you will be Monitoring

## Prediction and Prevention for Intervention

### **Prediction Application to an Exam Question:**

Does an answer option pose a risk to the patient based on the diagnosis/HPI/PMH?

### **Example:**

Post-op patient with orthostatic hypotension is at increased risk for syncope with various activities:

85 yof patient; POD 2 following TKR. History of 3 recent falls; 2 of which occurred when she first stood up.

85 yof patient; POD 2 following TKR. History of 3 recent falls; 2 of which occurred when she first stood up.

Based on patient's history:

- 1. What can you predict may happen during the following tests?
- 2. Is there anyway to prevent it?

85 yof patient; POD 2 following TKR. History of 3 recent falls; 2 of which occurred when she first stood up.

Based on patient's history,

- 1. What can you predict may happen during the following tests? Syncope / Pain / Fatigue
- 2. Is there anyway to prevent it? Yes

85 yof patient; POD 2 following TKR. History of 3 recent falls; 2 of which occurred when she first stood up.

Based on patient's history, the least appropriate balance test would be:

- 5 times STS
- TUG
- Tinetti Balance and Gait Assessment
- 30 second chair rise

85 yof patient; POD 2 following TKR. History of 3 recent falls; 2 of which occurred when she first stood up.

Based on patient's history, the **least** appropriate balance test would be:

(Syncope, Pain, Fatigue)

- 5 times STS ---- Increases risk
- TUG --- May increase / AD for prevention
- Tinetti Balance and Gait Assessment " "
- 30 second chair rise -- Really Increases risk

### Monitoring:

- Based on your Prevention, Predication and Precautions analysis
- Allows for *relevant* data collection
  - Determines appropriateness (safety) of intervention for patient
  - Clarifies / Determines when to:
    - Advance, Modify or Terminate an intervention

#### **Modifications:**

Based on your Prevention, Predication and Precautions analysis AND

Results of your Monitoring

### **Application to an Exam Question Monitoring Examples:**

- Consider options that address monitoring metrics that are relevant to the patient
- BP for a patient experiencing or at risk orthostasis
- Catheter lines / clothing for patient with SCI
- Seat height to THR precautions
- Vital signs for Cardiopulm
- RPE for CardioPulm / meds

### Application to an Exam Question Modification Examples:

Monitoring and Modifications of Intervention

Does the option offer an adaption or modification that increases patient safety?

- Consider an option for a patient with orthopnea if the option allows for an upright position to be used to complete the activity.
- Consider an option for a patient with hip precautions if the option offers position or movement patterns that decreases risk of dislocation.

### **Application to an Exam Question: Modification**

A 75 yo patient has fall history related to syncope when first standing up. To minimize the risk of orthostasis, the most appropriate modification to their transfer training would be:

- To lower the seating surface used in training
- To use a unilateral AD during training
- To raise the seating surface used in training
- To use a bilateral AD during training

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Safety,
Protection and
Professional
Responsibilities

- 1. Content Review
- 2. Principles Surrounding Content
- 3. Test Taking Strategies for Content

#### COMMUNICATION AND CLARITY: I

## Application: TUG Test

- Prerequisites and Precautions
- Prediction and Prevention
- Monitoring and Modifications
- Communication and Clarity: II

#### **COMMUNICATION AND CLARITY:**

Medical History Information in the stem to help you DETERMINE if this patient is a candidate for TUG

### **Does Patient have: PREREQUISITES**

- Sit to Stand
  - ROM / Strength
  - Cognition
  - Non or manageable Orthostatic Response / Pain
- Gait
  - Minimum of 20'
  - Endurance, strength, balance
  - Motor control and motor planning skills
  - Prior use of AD, etc.
- Cognition
- Vision & Hearing
- Environment
  - Chair, space, AD, footwear, manageable distraction,
  - Assistance of another ?

### What at the patient's PRECAUTIONS:

- Fall:
  - Syncope or LOB
  - Impaired LE strength or endurance: LEs or CV
  - Impaired understanding of instructions
  - Impaired motor control/planning
  - Insufficient assistance
- Diagnosis-Related
  - Cardiopulmonary:
    - Changes to HR, BP, RR, 02 level, excessive fatigue
  - Neuro/Ortho:
    - Unfavorable Pain Response; Increased Spasticity; etc.
    - Amputee: Prosthetic issues
  - Medications: New or Pre-existing

#### What events can be PREDICTED

**How might they be PREVENTED:** 

**EXAMPLE: Sit to Stand Phase: Syncope** 

- **BP Checks:** Prior to test for orthostasis
- Patient education and instructions
  - Their role in safety
- Patient preparation and practice of this skill
- Therapist preparation:
  - Gait belt
  - AD
  - Use of another assist
  - BP
  - Warm-up

#### **MONITORING AND MODIFICATIONS:**

**EXAMPLE: Orthostasis** 

#### **Signs and Symptoms**

- BP: Prior as well as...vital signs...
- Patient's
  - Subjective reports
  - Affect and changes
  - Their clarity with "teach-back" competence
- Safeguards:
  - W/C
  - Assistance
  - Patient understanding

A physical therapist assistant plans to complete a TUG test on their 73 yo patient. Their patient is s/p a recent MI after which they were prescribed to take a beta blocker BID. The therapist's best approach to completing the TUG test would be:

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A physical therapist assistant plans to complete a **TUG test** on their 73 yo patient. Their patient is **s/p recent MI** after which they were prescribed to take a **beta blocker BID**. The therapist's **best approach** to completing the TUG test would be:

- 1. Postpone the TUG until the patient is no longer taking the beta blocker.
- 2. Perform the TUG at the very beginning of the rx session to avoid fatiguing the patient.
- 3. Postpone the TUG until the patient's cardiologist clears them for the test.
- 4. Perform the TUG only after they asses the patient for orthostatic hypotension.

A physical therapist assistant plans to complete a **TUG test** on their 73 yo patient. Their patient is **s/p recent MI** after which they were prescribed to take a **beta blocker BID**. The therapist's **best approach** to completing the TUG test would be:

 Postpone the TUG until the patient is no longer taking the beta blocker.

This assumes that the beta blocker is causing orthostasis. While a reasonable assumption, it is not known based on the information in the question. Care must be taken when we 'read into' a question. "No longer" – again, assumes the med will be d/c'd.

"Just answer the question is asked"

A physical therapist assistant plans to complete a **TUG test** on their 73 yo patient. Their patient is **s/p recent MI** after which they were prescribed to take a **beta blocker BID**. The therapist's **best approach** to completing the TUG test would be:

2. Perform the TUG as the very first activity of the rx session to avoid fatiguing the patient.

The term 'first activity' is ambiguous and troubling. It may mean prior to any other activity. In this case, it is violating prediction/prevention principles as activity without a warm-up increases the risk of an unfavorable event for CP patients.

A physical therapist assistant plans to complete a **TUG test** on their 73 yo patient. Their patient is **s/p recent MI** after which they were prescribed to take a **beta blocker BID**. The therapist's **best approach** to completing the TUG test would be:

3. Postpone the TUG until the patient's cardiologist clears them for the test.

Not a customary or usual practice. The TUG falls under the purview of your practice.

Trust your knowledges of professional responsibilities as well as indications and contraindications for interventions, data collection and medical conditions.

A physical therapist assistant plans to complete a **TUG test** on their 73 yo patient. Their patient is **s/p recent MI** after which they were prescribed to take a **beta blocker BID**. The therapist's **best approach** to completing the TUG test would be:

4. Perform the TUG only after they asses the patient for orthostatic hypotension.

This answer is specific to the safety concern of the beta blocker in a way that does not assume anything. It reflects the uses of the prediction and prevention that are based on your data collection prior to the intervention TUG).

Allow your clinical decision-making to be guided by logic, facts and the principles of safe patient care.

A physical therapist assistant is asked to perform a fall risk assessment to determine a patient's fall risk prior to discharge home. The patient is an **82 yo** individual, **3 days s/p left hip ORIF** d/t a fall at home. Which of the following would be the **LEAST** appropriate test?

- Use Caution with LEAST and related qualifiers
- Strike-through feature

A physical therapist assistant is asked to perform a fall risk assessment to determine a patient's fall risk prior to discharge home. The patient is an 82 yo individual, 3 days s/p left hip ORIF d/t a fall at home. Which of the following would be the LEAST appropriate test?

- 1. TUG
- 2. Tinetti Test
- 3. Falls Efficacy Scale
- 4. Functional Reach test

### 3 days s/p left hip ORIF d/t a fall

Which of the following would be the **LEAST** appropriate test?

Prerequisites/Precautions Prediction/Prevention

- 1. TUG
- 2. Tinetti Test
- 3. Falls Efficacy Scale
- 4. Functional Reach test

### 3 days s/p left hip ORIF d/t a fall

Which of the following would be the **LEAST** appropriate test?

**Prerequisites/Precautions** - PWB'g/NWB'g **Prediction/Prevention** - PWB'g/NWB'g

- 1. TUG
- 2. Tinetti Test
- 3. Falls Efficacy Scale
- 4. Functional Reach test

Which of the following would be the **LEAST** appropriate test?

Strike-Through Strategy: All that are MOST

- 1. TUG
- 2. Tinetti Test
- 3. Falls Efficacy Scale
- 4. Functional Reach test



Possible,
Plausible
Options
but
Deliberate
Distractors



## **Decision Fatigue**

## Red Herrings and Decision Fatigue



When overwhelmed by too many choices or too much ambiguity...

Beware of Decision Fatigue.

## Red Herrings and Decision Fatigue



**Too many choices** 

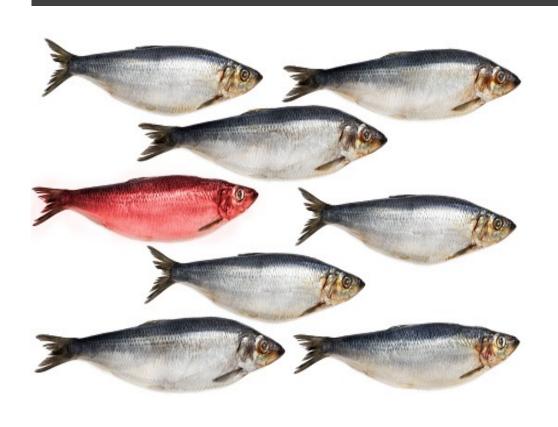
+ Too much ambiguity

**Decision Fatigue.** 

#### **DECISION-MAKING QUESTIONS:**

Weighing options
Unknown material
Confusing questions

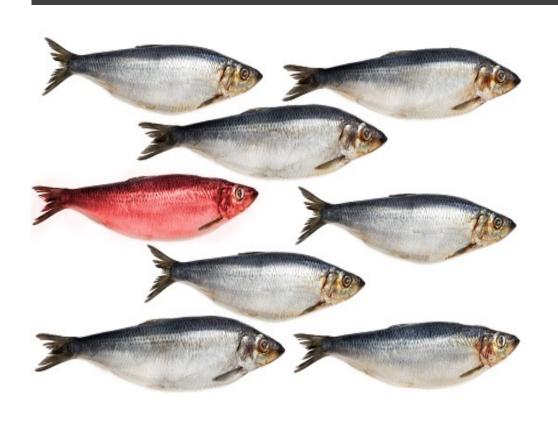
## Red Herrings and Decision Fatigue



#### **Symptoms:**

- Increased time spent on questions
- Reading into stem or answer options (What if....)
- Look for safety with superlatives
- Becoming Irrational and Impulsive

# Decision Fatigue: Prediction & Prevention Symptoms and Solutions



#### **Suggestions:**

- Use strike-through feature
- Time limit/question; then move on
  - Avoid "What If's"
- Consider it to be a trial question

Value of moving on.....







Appendectomy, Seasonal Allergy, Orthopnea, COPD, Tinnitus, Claustrophobia, DJD right wrist, Rotator Cuff Sprain

**Ankle Pumps in Seated Position** 

AVOID the "What If's"







Appendectomy, Seasonal Allergy, Orthopnea, COPD, Tinnitus, Claustrophobia, DJD right wrist, Rotator Cuff Sprain

Lumbar traction.







Appendectomy, Seasonal Allergy, Orthopnea, COPD, Tinnitus, Claustrophobia, DJD right wrist, Rotator Cuff Sprain

**Lumbar Traction** 







Appendectomy, Seasonal Allergy, Orthopnea, COPD, Tinnitus, Claustrophobia, DJD right wrist, Rotator Cuff Sprain

**SLR in Supine** 







Appendectomy, Seasonal Allergy, Orthopnea, COPD, Tinnitus, Claustrophobia, DJD right wrist, Rotator Cuff Sprain

**SLR** in Supine

# Decision Fatigue: Prediction & Prevention Symptoms and Solutions



#### **Suggestions:**

- Use strike-through feature
- Time limit/question; then move on
  - Avoid "What Ifs"
- Consider it to be a trial question

Value of moving on.....

#### 1. Content Review:

Specific knowledges and metrics

Safety,
Protection and
Professional
Responsibilities

#### 2. Principles of Clinical Reasoning

A decision-making guide: Clinic / Exam

#### 3. Test Taking Strategies:

- Apply Principles
- Avoid:
  - Inattentional Blindness
  - Decision Fatigue





# **Thanks for Tuning In!**

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