

Introduction to Intramuscular Injections Quiz

Answer Key

1. Intramuscular injections are used for which of the following?

a. Pain medications

- b. Local anesthetics
- c. Insulin
- d. Sensitivity tests

Intramuscular can also be used in vaccines or if patient cannot take medication orally or medication cannot be given IV.

2. Which of the following is the proper site for an intramuscular injection?

- a. Anterior forearm
- b. Abdomen
- c. Back of upper arm

d. Deltoid

Choice a is used for intradermal. Choices b and c are used for subcutaneous injections.

3. You need to give an intramuscular injection to a patient. Which of the following needles would you correctly select?

- a. 1 to 3 inch, 18- to 16-gauge needle
- b. 5/8 to 1½ inch, 25- to 18-gauge needle**
- c. 5/8 to 1 inch, 27- to 30-gauge needle
- d. 3/8 to 5/8 inch, 25- to 27-gauge needle

Choice a is too large of a gauge. Choices c is too small of gauge and d is used for intradermal injections.

4. When administering an intramuscular injection, what angle should be used?

- a. 5-15 degree
- b. 15-45 degree
- c. 45-90 degree

d. 90 degree only

90 degrees allows for access to the muscle.

5. After you give a pain medication to a patient, what should be completed 15-30 minutes later?

a. Reassess patient's pain level

- b. Document the medication administration
- c. Administer another dose
- d. Give patient food

Per the Joint Commission, all organizations should have a policy on pain reassessment and respond to a patient based on reassessment criteria.