

Introduction to Subcutaneous Injections Quiz - Answer Key

Select the best answer to the following multiple-choice questions:

1. Subcutaneous injections are used for which of the following?
 - a. Pain medications
 - b. Local anesthetics
 - c. Insulin**
 - d. Sensitivity tests

Subcutaneous injections can include insulin, some anticoagulants and some vaccines. Pain medications are given IM. Local anesthetics and sensitivity tests are given intradermal

2. Which of the following is the proper site for a subcutaneous injection?
 - a. Anterior forearm
 - b. Abdomen**
 - c. Chest
 - d. Lower legs

Subcutaneous injections can be given in the abdomen, back of upper arms and anterior thighs. Intradermal are given in the anterior forearm. Chest and lower legs are not injection sites.

3. You need to give insulin subcutaneously to a patient. Which of the following needles would you correctly select?
 - a. 1 to 3 inch, 22- to 18-gauge needle
 - b. 5/8 to 1½ inch, 24- to 18-gauge needle
 - c. 5/8 to 1/2 inch, 25- to 27-gauge needle**
 - d. 3/8 to 5/8 inch, 27- to 30-gauge needle

Choices a and b are too large of needles and Choice d is too small of a needle for insulin.

4. When administering a subcutaneous injection, what angle should be used?
 - a. 5 or 15 degree
 - b. 15 or 45 degree
 - c. 45 or 90 degree**
 - d. 90 degree only

Depending on the amount of subcutaneous tissue present or medication given, the angle can vary between 45 and 90.

5. After you give insulin subcutaneously to a patient, what should be included in the follow-up?
 - a. Recheck patient's pain level
 - b. The site needs to be read in 48-72 hours
 - c. Place pressure on the site for 2 minutes
 - d. Monitor patient for signs of low blood glucose**

Insulin causes a drop in blood glucose so therefore patients should be monitored for hypoglycemia.