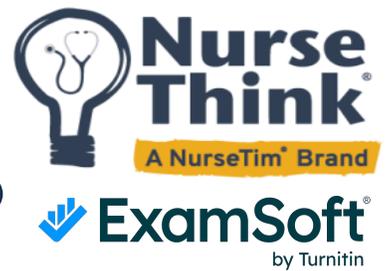


# Clinical Judgment Exams



## From Traditional to Next Gen NCLEX®

The NurseThink® Clinical Judgment Exams (CJEs) are designed using the foundation of the Clinical Judgment Measurement Model (CJMM) from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN). As the NCSBN transitions to the Next Gen NCLEX® (NGN) guided by their extensive research, NurseThink® has also adopted the new NGN item types to include alongside traditional item types on each CJE. These before and after samples highlight the ways the NGN item types elevate test items to gauge how well students can apply their nursing education to multiple steps of the CJMM in realistic client-care scenarios.

### Item 1: Before (Select all that apply)

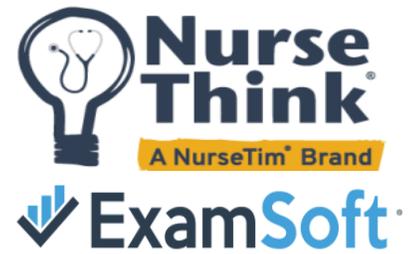
The nurse cares for a client in the early post-operative phase of a kidney transplant. Which assessment findings indicate blood supply to the new kidney may not be established? **Select all that apply.**

1. \*Creatinine level change from 3.6 mg/dL to 4.0 mg/dL.
2. \*Blood urea nitrogen (BUN) change from 28 mg/dL to 34 mg/dL.
3. \*50 mL of concentrated urine in the past two hours.
4. Urine output decreased from 950 mL/hour to 880 ml/hour.
5. \*Sudden decrease in urine output from 780 mL/hour to 300 mL/hour.

**System:** Genitourinary **Concept:** Elimination **Concept Exemplar-Disease:** Kidney Transplant **Subtopic:** Graft Dysfunction **Bloom's Taxonomy:** Applying **NCLEX® Client Needs:** Management of Care **QSEN Competencies:** Patient-Centered Care **Nursing Process:** Evaluation **Clinical Judgment Measurement Model:** Evaluate Outcomes



## Item 2: Before (Multiple Choice)



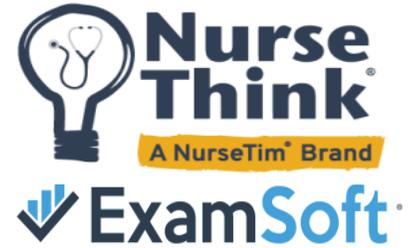
A client arrives at the hospital with complaints of chest pain. The health care provider prescribes sublingual nitroglycerin. Which data is most important for the nurse to assess prior to administering the medication?

1. A numeric pain rating.
2. \*Client's blood pressure.
3. Client's oxygen saturation.
4. Electrocardiogram results.

**System:** Cardiovascular **Concept:** Pain Concept **Exemplar-Disease:** Acute Pain **Subtopic:** Nitroglycerin Administration **Bloom's Taxonomy:** Applying **NCLEX® Client Needs:** Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies **QSEN Competencies:** Safety **Nursing Process:** Data Collection **Clinical Judgment Measurement Model:** Prioritize Hypotheses



## Item 2: After (Continued)



**Debriefing:** Primary adverse effects of nitroglycerin are hypotension and reflex tachycardia. The prescription indicates it should only be given if the systolic blood pressure is  $> 90$  mmHg, so the nurse should not administer a third dose. Supplemental oxygen is not indicated as the client is not hypoxic. Transcutaneous pacing is indicated for profound and symptomatic bradycardia unresponsive to medications and is not appropriate for this client. Cardiac catheterization is often utilized for clients with myocardial infarction and the nurse should prepare the client for this likely intervention. In the meantime, the nurse should ensure the client has a continuous cardiac monitor in place. **Clinical Tip:** The nurse must ensure the client has patent peripheral venous access to prepare for possible adverse effects when administering nitroglycerin.

### Item 3: Before (Select all that apply)

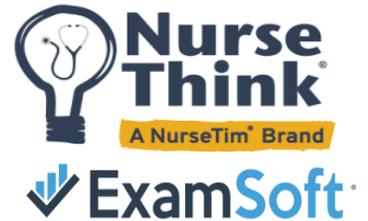
The nurse cares for a client experiencing hypovolemic shock. Which signs and symptoms does the nurse expect the client to experience? **Select all that apply.**

1. \*Tachycardia
2. Cheyne-Stokes respirations.
3. \*Confusion.
4. \*Generalized pallor.
5. Bounding pulse.

**System:** Cardiovascular **Concept:** Perfusion Concept **Exemplar-Disease:** Hypovolemic Shock **Subtopic:** Assessment Findings **Bloom's Taxonomy:** Analyzing **NCLEX® Client Needs:** Physiological Adaptation **QSEN Competencies:** Patient-Centered Care **Nursing Process:** Data Collection **Clinical Judgment Measurement Model:** Analyze Cues

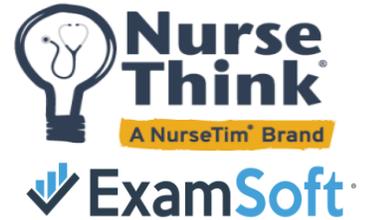


## Item 3: After (Continued)



**Debriefing:** The client is most likely experiencing hypovolemic shock due to cholera infection. Cholera causes very rapid dehydration and electrolyte imbalances. Diarrhea with cholera has a characteristic rice-water appearance that often smells of fish and is not painful; adult clients can lose up to one liter of fluid per hour. The client would be pale, clammy, weak, confused, with sunken eyes, rapid respirations, and a thready pulse. Hypokalemia and hypocalcemia may cause muscle cramping. **Clinical Tip:** There are several types of shock, each with differing signs and symptoms. The nurse must be aware of the differences in order to implement the appropriate nursing interventions.

## Item 4: Before (Multiple Choice)



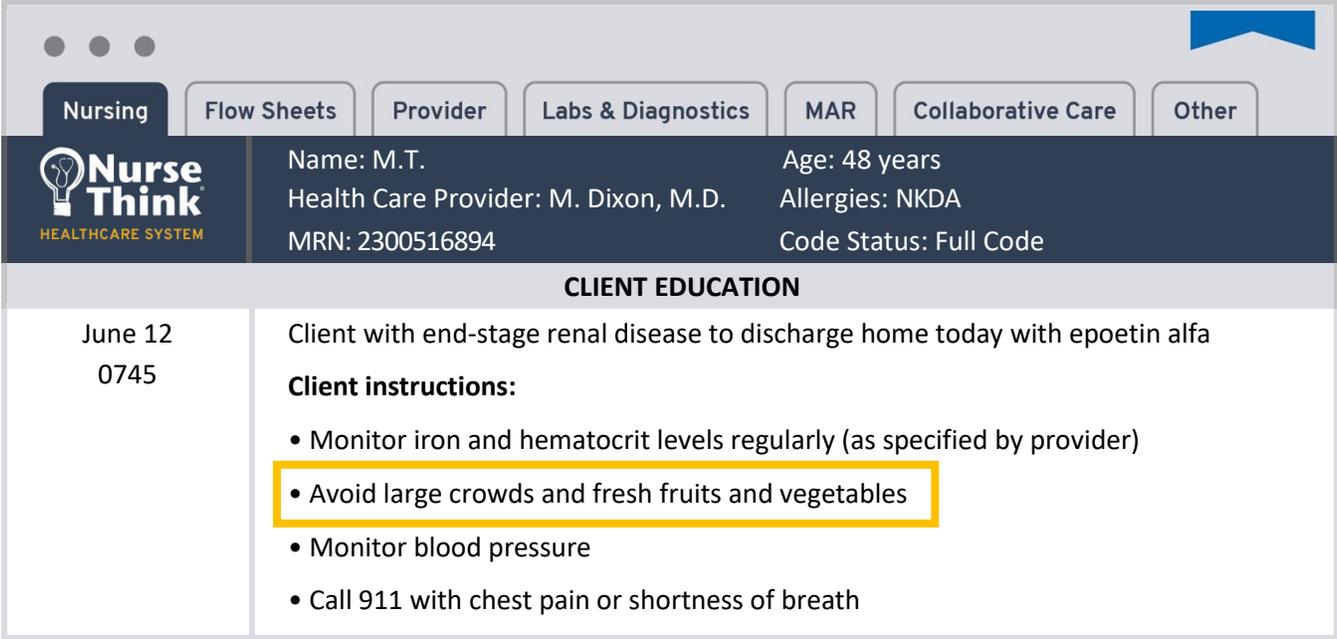
A client with end-stage renal disease is prescribed epoetin alfa. The nurse prepares to reinforce the teaching the client will need to safely administer the medication at home. Which information should the nurse include in the education review?

1. Methods to administer the oral medication.
2. \*To be aware of adverse reactions such as myocardial infarction.
3. The activity restrictions associated with the medication.
4. The need for protective isolation while taking the medication.

**System:** Renal **Concept:** Fluid & Electrolytes Concept **Exemplar-Disease:** End-stage Renal Disease **Subtopic:** Epoetin Alfa **Bloom's Taxonomy:** Applying **NCLEX® Client Needs:** Reduction of Risk Potential **QSEN Competencies:** Safety **Nursing Process:** Planning **Clinical Judgment Measurement Model:** Generate Solutions

## Item 4: After (Hot Spot)

The nurse reviews the teaching plan in the electronic health record for a client with end-stage renal disease using epoetin alfa. Before reviewing this information with the client, which part of the teaching plan does the nurse question?



The screenshot shows a software interface with a top navigation bar containing tabs for 'Nursing', 'Flow Sheets', 'Provider', 'Labs & Diagnostics', 'MAR', 'Collaborative Care', and 'Other'. Below the navigation bar is a dark grey header area with the 'Nurse Think HEALTHCARE SYSTEM' logo on the left and client information on the right: Name: M.T., Age: 48 years, Health Care Provider: M. Dixon, M.D., Allergies: NKDA, MRN: 2300516894, and Code Status: Full Code. The main content area is titled 'CLIENT EDUCATION' and contains a table with one entry dated 'June 12 0745'. The entry text reads: 'Client with end-stage renal disease to discharge home today with epoetin alfa'. Below this is a section titled 'Client instructions:' followed by a bulleted list: 'Monitor iron and hematocrit levels regularly (as specified by provider)', 'Avoid large crowds and fresh fruits and vegetables', 'Monitor blood pressure', and 'Call 911 with chest pain or shortness of breath'. The second bullet point is highlighted with a yellow box.

CLIENT EDUCATION	
June 12 0745	<p>Client with end-stage renal disease to discharge home today with epoetin alfa</p> <p><b>Client instructions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor iron and hematocrit levels regularly (as specified by provider)</li> <li>• Avoid large crowds and fresh fruits and vegetables</li> <li>• Monitor blood pressure</li> <li>• Call 911 with chest pain or shortness of breath</li> </ul>

**Debriefing:** Epoetin alfa is a subcutaneous injection that increases red blood cell production. Treatment is not without serious side effects including myocardial infarction and thromboembolic disease. The client's blood pressure, hematocrit, and iron level need to be monitored regularly. Activity restrictions and protective isolation are not indicated with this medication. **Clinical Tip:** Clients with chronic renal failure lack endogenous erythropoietin. Exogenous epoetin alfa provides significant positive outcomes for clients.