

Worksheet 3-3

Cultural Competence

1. Carl, a 45-year-old male, has multiple sclerosis and has been receiving outpatient occupational therapy. Today the OTA, Cindy, is meeting and working with him for the first time. Carl was accompanied by another male whom Carl introduced as his husband. Cindy has deep religious beliefs that completely oppose this lifestyle, causing personal uneasiness. What should the OTA do?
 - A. Explain to the client her discomfort with his lifestyle, but that she will try to do her best to help him
 - B. Immediately speak to the supervising OT and refuse to treat the client
 - C. Educate the client regarding the OTA's religious beliefs and offer to pray for him
 - D. Ignore personal feelings and treat client and his partner with respect
2. Ali sustained a myocardial infarction and was admitted to an acute care hospital. Sarah, an OTA, is scheduled to teach him skilled bathing techniques today. When she gets to Ali's room, he tells her it is against his religion to have a female other than his wife help him with bathing. There are no male occupational therapy practitioners on staff. Which of the following is the best course of action for the OTA?
 - A. Reassure Ali that she is a trained health professional and tell him not to worry
 - B. Work on pertinent client factors necessary for bathing
 - C. Ask a male nurse to teach Ali bathing techniques
 - D. Document that the client refused occupational therapy today
3. Chava, a 65-year-old homemaker, devoutly follows the Orthodox sect of Judaism. She is in a rehabilitation hospital following an exacerbation of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Her occupational therapy goals include increasing activity tolerance for IADL. The plan is for Chava to prepare her own lunch today in occupational therapy. Which of the following foods are most appropriate for an OTA to offer Chava for today's meal preparation session, assuming there are no dietary medical restrictions?
 - A. Cheeseburger
 - B. Scrambled eggs and bacon
 - C. Turkey and cheese sandwich
 - D. Fresh fruit salad with cottage cheese
4. Parita is 78 years old and recently emigrated from India to the United States. Parita sustained a cerebrovascular accident that resulted in left hemiparesis. She is presently in a rehabilitation hospital where the clients are expected to wear regular clothes during the day. The occupational therapy intervention plan includes goals for independent transfers and safe functional ambulation for home management tasks. Parita is able to use a hemi-walker with minimal assistance, but the OTA notes the hemi-walker keeps getting caught in Parita's sari, her traditional clothing. The OTA discusses this safety hazard with her and suggests alternate garments, but Parita refuses to wear clothing other than her traditional saris. Besides talking to the PT, which of the following is the OTA's best course of action?
 - A. Document that Parita has poor safety awareness
 - B. Document that Parita needs to use a narrow-based quad cane
 - C. Document the safety hazard and client education provided
 - D. Recommend discharge from occupational therapy