

PRACTICE EXAM 13: ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR SIMULATION (150 QUESTIONS)

This 150-question practice examination is modeled on the IC&RC ADC blueprint: Scientific Principles (25%), Screening and Assessment (20%), Treatment, Counseling, and Referral (30%), and Professional, Ethical, and Legal Responsibilities (25%). Allow three hours. Select the single best answer for each question. This is an original study aid, not an official examination.

1. During a routine counseling case review, a client needs increasing amounts of a substance to obtain the same effect. This most directly describes

- A. tolerance
- B. remission
- C. intoxication
- D. withdrawal

2. In a client-centered treatment setting, the substance-use process most closely associated with reinforcement and craving involves the brain's

- A. motor reflexes
- B. language centers
- C. reward pathways
- D. visual pathways

3. While planning safe and ethical care, which presentation is most consistent with opioid overdose?

- A. Rapid breathing with tremor
- B. Slow breathing with markedly reduced responsiveness
- C. High fever with pressured speech

D. Dilated pupils with agitation

4. For a counselor considering the next best response, a client who stops heavy alcohol use and develops tremor, sweating, and anxiety is most likely experiencing

- A. alcohol tolerance
- B. opioid intoxication
- C. cannabis intoxication
- D. alcohol withdrawal

5. During a routine counseling case review, cross-tolerance is most likely between alcohol and

- A. benzodiazepines
- B. cannabis
- C. cocaine
- D. hallucinogens

6. In a client-centered treatment setting, which substance category is most associated with increased alertness, insomnia, and sympathetic activation?

- A. sedatives
- B. dissociatives
- C. stimulants
- D. opioids

7. While planning safe and ethical care, pinpoint pupils and slowed respiration are classic findings of

- A. alcohol withdrawal
- B. cannabis use
- C. opioid intoxication
- D. stimulant intoxication

8. For a counselor considering the next best response, a client reports insomnia, increased appetite, and irritability after stopping daily cannabis use. The best interpretation is

- A. possible cannabis withdrawal
- B. a normal sign of remission
- C. evidence of alcohol intoxication
- D. proof of opioid overdose

9. During a routine counseling case review, a major risk factor for substance use disorder is

- A. having a stable support system
- B. using coping skills consistently
- C. attending preventive care
- D. a family history of substance-related problems

10. In a client-centered treatment setting, repeated exposure to traumatic events can increase risk for substance use because substances may be used to

- A. replace medical assessment
- B. manage distressing internal experiences
- C. eliminate all grief
- D. improve long-term memory

11. While planning safe and ethical care, which finding warrants prompt medical evaluation during alcohol withdrawal?

- A. A request for a support meeting
- B. Mild boredom after work
- C. Confusion with a history of withdrawal seizures
- D. Interest in journaling

12. For a counselor considering the next best response, the term craving refers to

- A. a completed treatment plan
- B. a strong urge or desire to use a substance
- C. a confirmed diagnosis
- D. a medication allergy

13. During a routine counseling case review, a progressive substance-use disorder is best understood as

- A. a condition cured by confrontation
- B. a single isolated choice
- C. a fixed moral failing
- D. a pattern that can worsen in impact and control over time

14. In a client-centered treatment setting, which effect is most characteristic of central nervous system depressants?

- A. Slowed reaction time and impaired coordination
- B. Increased energy and wakefulness
- C. Marked pupil dilation only
- D. Improved judgment under stress

15. While planning safe and ethical care, combining alcohol with other sedating substances is especially dangerous because it may

- A. increase respiratory depression
- B. guarantee sobriety
- C. eliminate overdose risk
- D. prevent all withdrawal

16. For a counselor considering the next best response, a clinician should consider co-occurring conditions when a client presents with

- A. only a desire for information
- B. a completed discharge summary
- C. a stable recovery plan
- D. substance-use symptoms and persistent mental-health symptoms

17. During a routine counseling case review, which condition can complicate substance-use treatment by affecting concentration and sleep?

- A. a signed release
- B. anxiety disorder
- C. a preferred learning style
- D. a transportation route

18. In a client-centered treatment setting, a client has jaundice, abdominal swelling, and a history of prolonged heavy drinking. The counselor should recognize possible

- A. evidence of treatment completion
- B. routine caffeine withdrawal
- C. liver disease requiring medical evaluation
- D. a harmless counseling reaction

19. While planning safe and ethical care, the safest counselor response to suspected overdose is to

- A. conduct a lengthy assessment first
- B. ask the client to sleep it off
- C. promise confidentiality without limits
- D. activate emergency response according to policy

20. For a counselor considering the next best response, which statement best reflects the disease model of addiction?

- A. Substance use disorder involves changes in health and functioning, not simply willpower
- B. People choose every symptom
- C. Relapse proves treatment failed
- D. Shame is the main intervention

21. During a routine counseling case review, a substance that produces hallucinations and altered perception is classified as a

- A. stimulant
- B. hallucinogen
- C. sedative
- D. opioid

22. In a client-centered treatment setting, which factor is most protective against escalating substance-related harm?

- A. social isolation
- B. frequent intoxication
- C. supportive relationships and effective coping skills
- D. untreated trauma

23. While planning safe and ethical care, withdrawal symptoms generally occur when

- A. treatment goals are written
- B. regular substance exposure is reduced or stopped
- C. a support person calls
- D. a referral is accepted

24. For a counselor considering the next best response, which sign is commonly associated with stimulant intoxication?

- A. Agitation with rapid speech and insomnia
- B. Slowed breathing and sedation
- C. Pinpoint pupils and nodding
- D. Marked coordination loss from alcohol

25. During a routine counseling case review, a counselor uses person-first language primarily to

- A. remove client choice
- B. avoid documenting concerns
- C. reduce stigma and support respectful care
- D. replace assessment

26. In a client-centered treatment setting, the relationship between substance use and mental health is best described as

- A. explained only by motivation
- B. always unrelated
- C. resolved by one screening item
- D. often interactive and requiring integrated assessment

27. While planning safe and ethical care, a client who continues use despite serious consequences may be showing

- A. impaired control characteristic of substance use disorder
- B. a completed recovery plan
- C. successful harm reduction only
- D. evidence of stable remission

28. For a counselor considering the next best response, which approach is appropriate when medical symptoms may be substance related?

- A. Assure the client nothing is wrong
- B. Encourage timely medical assessment within the counselor's scope
- C. Change prescribed medication independently
- D. Provide a medical diagnosis

29. During a routine counseling case review, increased dose requirements after repeated use reflect

- A. confidentiality
- B. case management
- C. informed consent
- D. neuroadaptation associated with tolerance

30. In a client-centered treatment setting, a client reports blackouts after drinking. The counselor should recognize that blackouts involve

- A. normal sleep only
- B. a guaranteed seizure disorder
- C. memory impairment during intoxication
- D. evidence of abstinence

31. While planning safe and ethical care, which factor can increase overdose risk after abstinence?

- A. Attending counseling regularly
- B. Improved sleep hygiene
- C. Reduced tolerance followed by return to prior dosing
- D. Using recovery supports

32. For a counselor considering the next best response, co-occurring disorder screening is important because

- A. it removes the need for referrals
- B. it replaces a clinical interview
- C. it proves causation
- D. untreated symptoms can affect engagement and recovery planning

33. During a routine counseling case review, which is a psychosocial effect of substance use?

- A. Strained relationships and role impairment
- B. Guaranteed resilience
- C. Improved family communication
- D. Automatic employment stability

34. In a client-centered treatment setting, the counselor should avoid assuming a client's substance use is caused by

- A. available coping resources
- B. one single factor without assessment
- C. a complex interaction of risks
- D. current stressors

35. While planning safe and ethical care, a return to use should be viewed first as

- A. automatic discharge
- B. proof of bad character
- C. a reason to abandon care
- D. a clinical event requiring reassessment and support

36. For a counselor considering the next best response, which symptom may indicate sedative intoxication?

- A. Persistent pupil dilation
- B. Slurred speech and unsteady gait
- C. Heightened vigilance
- D. Racing thoughts only

37. During a routine counseling case review, a client with severe depression and substance use needs

- A. integrated attention to safety and co-occurring needs
- B. a counselor diagnosis outside scope
- C. separate assessment of only the substance
- D. confrontation without support

38. In a client-centered treatment setting, the term remission generally refers to

- A. an immediate cure after detoxification
- B. a permanent guarantee against relapse
- C. a period when disorder criteria are no longer fully met
- D. a substitute for recovery supports

39. While planning safe and ethical care, the primary purpose of screening is to

- A. determine moral worth
- B. identify whether further assessment is indicated
- C. replace informed consent
- D. make a final diagnosis

40. For a counselor considering the next best response, motivational interviewing is most consistent with

- A. making decisions for the client
- B. argument and confrontation
- C. collaborative exploration of ambivalence
- D. giving unsolicited lectures

41. During a routine counseling case review, an open-ended question is most useful because it

- A. invites the client to describe experience in their own words
- B. requires only yes or no
- C. avoids all follow-up
- D. tests the client's memory

42. In a client-centered treatment setting, a comprehensive biopsychosocial assessment includes

- A. only family opinions
- B. only employment history
- C. only drug-test results
- D. medical, psychological, social, and substance-use information

43. While planning safe and ethical care, collateral information should be obtained

- A. instead of speaking with the client
- B. with appropriate consent or another legal basis
- C. whenever a counselor is curious
- D. without discussing confidentiality

44. For a counselor considering the next best response, when self-report conflicts with other information, the counselor should

- A. explore the discrepancy respectfully
- B. ignore all other data
- C. end the assessment immediately
- D. accuse the client of lying

45. During a routine counseling case review, drug-test results are best used as

- A. proof of motivation
- B. a substitute for clinical judgment
- C. the sole measure of recovery
- D. one source of information interpreted in context

46. In a client-centered treatment setting, a counselor selects a validated screening instrument primarily to

- A. guarantee a diagnosis
- B. avoid talking with the client
- C. improve systematic identification of potential concerns
- D. replace treatment planning

47. While planning safe and ethical care, the first priority when a client reports suicidal intent is to

- A. schedule a later discussion
- B. assess immediate safety and follow crisis procedures
- C. continue routine paperwork
- D. promise secrecy

48. For a counselor considering the next best response, assessment of level of care should consider

- A. severity, functioning, safety, and support needs
- B. only insurance preference

- C. only a single test score
- D. only the counselor's schedule

49. During a routine counseling case review, a culturally responsive assessment requires the counselor to

- A. assume all families are alike
- B. avoid discussing identity
- C. ask how culture and context shape the client's experience
- D. apply stereotypes

50. In a client-centered treatment setting, the most appropriate response to a vague answer is to

- A. fill in missing details
- B. change the subject
- C. treat the answer as consent
- D. use gentle probing and clarification

51. While planning safe and ethical care, a screening result suggesting risk should lead to

- A. further assessment or an appropriate referral
- B. automatic exclusion from services
- C. an immediate diagnosis without review
- D. a public disclosure

52. For a counselor considering the next best response, diagnostic criteria should be applied by

- A. relying on personal impressions alone
- B. ignoring functional impairment
- C. counting only legal consequences
- D. using established standards within professional scope

53. During a routine counseling case review, the assessment interview should begin by

- A. collecting collateral without notice
- B. announcing a diagnosis
- C. explaining purpose, limits, and client participation
- D. demanding disclosure

54. In a client-centered treatment setting, when evaluating readiness for change, the counselor should focus on

- A. predicting failure
- B. the client's own statements about goals and ambivalence
- C. avoiding client preferences
- D. forcing a commitment

55. While planning safe and ethical care, a client denies problems despite recent consequences. The best initial approach is

- A. threaten discharge
- B. label the client resistant
- C. reflect the discrepancy without arguing
- D. insist on agreement

56. For a counselor considering the next best response, a strengths-based assessment includes

- A. only test scores
- B. only past failures
- C. only deficits and diagnoses
- D. resources, resilience, and supports as well as needs

57. During a routine counseling case review, when immediate medical risk is suspected, the counselor should

- A. facilitate urgent evaluation according to protocol
- B. wait for the next session
- C. minimize the symptoms
- D. attempt medical treatment

58. In a client-centered treatment setting, the purpose of informed consent in assessment is to

- A. permit unlimited disclosure
- B. support an informed and voluntary decision to participate
- C. guarantee a desired outcome
- D. replace documentation

59. While planning safe and ethical care, a useful follow-up to a positive alcohol screen is to

- A. make a moral judgment
- B. assume the level of care
- C. assess pattern, consequences, withdrawal, and safety
- D. ignore co-occurring symptoms

60. For a counselor considering the next best response, assessment should be updated when

- A. the original form is complete
- B. new information or significant changes affect care needs
- C. the client is doing well
- D. a counselor changes jobs

61. During a routine counseling case review, the counselor should document assessment findings in a way that is

- A. objective, relevant, and timely
- B. unrelated to services
- C. speculative and judgmental
- D. based on gossip

62. In a client-centered treatment setting, a client reports domestic violence. The assessment should include

- A. a guarantee of secrecy
- B. a conclusion that use caused violence
- C. pressure to disclose every detail
- D. immediate safety needs and available supports

63. While planning safe and ethical care, a level-of-care decision is strongest when it is based on

- A. a single demographic trait
- B. one family member's opinion
- C. multiple relevant dimensions of client need
- D. one preferred program

64. For a counselor considering the next best response, when using an interpreter, the counselor should

- A. use a qualified interpreter and address the client directly
- B. speak only to the interpreter
- C. ask a child to translate
- D. skip consent discussion

65. During a routine counseling case review, the purpose of a mental-status observation is to

- A. judge personality
- B. record relevant appearance, mood, thought, and behavior findings
- C. diagnose outside scope
- D. replace client self-report

66. In a client-centered treatment setting, if a client appears intoxicated for an assessment, the counselor should first

- A. complete every form quickly
- B. obtain a treatment promise
- C. ignore observable impairment
- D. evaluate safety and capacity to participate

67. While planning safe and ethical care, a trauma-informed assessment emphasizes

- A. challenging every emotion
- B. treating trauma as irrelevant
- C. demanding detailed trauma narratives
- D. safety, choice, collaboration, and avoiding retraumatization

68. For a counselor considering the next best response, the best use of a referral source during assessment is to

- A. clarify available information while protecting confidentiality
- B. share all records automatically
- C. let the source make all decisions
- D. ignore the client's perspective

69. During a routine counseling case review, a counselor builds rapport most effectively by

- A. making assumptions

- B. promising guaranteed outcomes
- C. demonstrating empathy, respect, and consistent follow-through
- D. arguing about labels

70. In a client-centered treatment setting, reflective listening is used to

- A. avoid responding
- B. communicate understanding and invite deeper exploration
- C. correct every statement
- D. direct the client to agree

71. While planning safe and ethical care, a treatment-plan goal should be

- A. written only by the counselor
- B. unrelated to assessment
- C. phrased as a punishment
- D. collaborative, meaningful, and linked to assessed needs

72. For a counselor considering the next best response, a measurable objective describes

- A. a permanent guarantee
- B. a specific change or action that can be reviewed
- C. a counselor preference
- D. a vague hope only

73. During a routine counseling case review, in crisis de-escalation, the counselor should first

- A. use calm communication and assess immediate safety
- B. leave without a plan
- C. debate the client
- D. raise their voice

74. In a client-centered treatment setting, a referral is most appropriate when

- A. the client asks a difficult question
- B. the counselor dislikes the client
- C. a need exceeds available services or counselor competence
- D. documentation is delayed

75. While planning safe and ethical care, effective case management includes

- A. replacing all counseling
- B. giving a list without discussion
- C. making choices without consent
- D. linking clients with resources and following up on access

76. For a counselor considering the next best response, a relapse-prevention plan should identify

- A. only past mistakes
- B. triggers, warning signs, coping responses, and supports
- C. a fixed discharge date
- D. a promise never to struggle

77. During a routine counseling case review, when a client expresses ambivalence, the counselor should

- A. dismiss concerns
- B. argue for abstinence only
- C. explore both sides and elicit change talk
- D. demand immediate action

78. In a client-centered treatment setting, a group facilitator promotes cohesion by

- A. setting clear norms and encouraging respectful participation
- B. speaking for every member
- C. ignoring confidentiality
- D. allowing personal attacks

79. While planning safe and ethical care, when a client becomes tearful in session, the best initial response is to

- A. tell the client to stop crying
- B. acknowledge emotion and invite the client to say more
- C. offer a diagnosis
- D. change topics immediately

80. For a counselor considering the next best response, a counselor uses reframing to

- A. deny the client's reality
- B. avoid listening
- C. assign blame
- D. offer a different, constructive perspective on an experience

81. During a routine counseling case review, discharge planning should begin

- A. early and be updated throughout care
- B. only after the final session
- C. after all supports are removed
- D. when the client is absent

82. In a client-centered treatment setting, a recovery-oriented referral should be based on

- A. the counselor's personal preference
- B. the most distant provider
- C. the client's goals, needs, preferences, and access
- D. a single recovery pathway

83. While planning safe and ethical care, when a client has limited transportation, the counselor should

- A. ignore the barrier
- B. assume noncompliance
- C. withdraw services
- D. collaborate on realistic service-access options

84. For a counselor considering the next best response, a counselor addressing resistance should avoid

- A. power struggles and shaming language
- B. open questions
- C. reflective listening
- D. affirmations

85. During a routine counseling case review, the best response to a missed appointment is to

- A. assume lack of motivation
- B. publicly discuss absence
- C. reach out according to policy with supportive, nonjudgmental language
- D. automatically terminate services

86. In a client-centered treatment setting, a client requests medication information beyond counselor scope. The counselor should

- A. discourage all medication
- B. facilitate consultation with a qualified prescriber

- C. recommend a dosage
- D. provide a medical clearance

87. While planning safe and ethical care, in family involvement, the counselor should

- A. exclude the client from planning
- B. assume family participation is always desired
- C. obtain consent and clarify each person's role
- D. share records freely

88. For a counselor considering the next best response, a trauma-informed counseling stance includes

- A. forcing exposure to trauma memories
- B. equating silence with refusal
- C. using confrontation first
- D. prioritizing safety, choice, and collaboration

89. During a routine counseling case review, a client in recovery asks about peer support. The best response is to

- A. explore options that fit the client's preferences and goals
- B. insist on one program
- C. promise peer support replaces treatment
- D. dismiss peer support

90. In a client-centered treatment setting, a counselor should use feedback most effectively when it is

- A. used to shame
- B. specific, respectful, and connected to client goals
- C. given without listening
- D. vague and punitive

91. While planning safe and ethical care, the appropriate response to a housing crisis is to

- A. treat housing as unrelated to recovery
- B. address immediate safety and connect the client to resources
- C. postpone discussion indefinitely
- D. assume the client can solve it alone

92. For a counselor considering the next best response, a group member dominates discussion. The facilitator should

- A. redirect respectfully to create space for others
- B. humiliate the member
- C. ignore the pattern
- D. end the group

93. During a routine counseling case review, a counselor uses summarizing to

- A. introduce unrelated topics
- B. replace assessment
- C. close off discussion
- D. organize key points and check shared understanding

94. In a client-centered treatment setting, when treatment progress stalls, the counselor should

- A. repeat the same plan without review
- B. blame the client
- C. review barriers, goals, and interventions collaboratively
- D. end care without discussion

95. While planning safe and ethical care, a client-centered treatment plan reflects

- A. only family demands
- B. only the counselor's goals
- C. only program rules
- D. the client's stated priorities and informed choices

96. For a counselor considering the next best response, a counselor should respond to a client's cultural concern by

- A. asking respectful questions and adapting care when appropriate
- B. assuming cultural meaning
- C. requiring the client to educate everyone
- D. avoiding the topic

97. During a routine counseling case review, the purpose of a warm handoff is to

- A. guarantee acceptance
- B. avoid documentation
- C. support connection to another service rather than merely provide a contact
- D. transfer responsibility without notice

98. In a client-centered treatment setting, a client discloses escalating urges to use. The counselor should

- A. wait until the next month
- B. review the safety and relapse-prevention plan promptly
- C. tell the client urges are unimportant
- D. treat it as a disciplinary issue

99. While planning safe and ethical care, a helpful coping-skills intervention is to

- A. practice a specific strategy before a high-risk situation occurs
- B. avoid discussing triggers
- C. wait for a crisis to begin
- D. tell the client to use willpower only

100. For a counselor considering the next best response, when a client needs a service not offered by the program, the counselor should

- A. pretend the service is available
- B. give advice outside competence
- C. withhold options
- D. provide an appropriate referral and coordinate with consent

101. During a routine counseling case review, the counselor should terminate counseling when

- A. the client asks a question
- B. goals are met, care is transferred, or services are no longer appropriate
- C. the counselor feels impatient
- D. documentation is complete

102. In a client-centered treatment setting, a client reports vicarious-trauma-like stress in a helping role. A helpful response is to

- A. promise it will resolve alone
- B. discourage supervision
- C. explore support, boundaries, and referral needs
- D. tell the client to ignore it

103. While planning safe and ethical care, in a group, confidentiality should be explained as

- A. unnecessary in treatment
- B. an absolute guarantee by all members
- C. a reason to avoid groups
- D. an expectation members agree to, with limits on the counselor's control

104. For a counselor considering the next best response, a counselor responding to anger should

- A. match the client's volume
- B. argue about facts
- C. remain regulated and validate the underlying experience without endorsing harm
- D. threaten discharge

105. During a routine counseling case review, the best first step after identifying a client strength is to

- A. incorporate it into the recovery plan
- B. replace all goals with praise
- C. ignore it to focus on deficits
- D. treat it as proof no help is needed

106. In a client-centered treatment setting, a client with limited literacy needs materials. The counselor should

- A. provide more jargon
- B. use plain language and check understanding
- C. assume reading comprehension
- D. avoid written supports entirely

107. While planning safe and ethical care, a counselor should coordinate with a multidisciplinary team by

- A. excluding the client from care

- B. giving orders outside scope
- C. sharing relevant information within consent and role boundaries
- D. sharing all details freely

108. For a counselor considering the next best response, a client asks for a different counselor. The appropriate response is to

- A. explore the request respectfully and follow program procedures
- B. treat the request as disloyalty
- C. refuse without discussion
- D. share the issue with other clients

109. During a routine counseling case review, a plan for recovery support after discharge should include

- A. a promise of no future problems
- B. no client input
- C. only a verbal goodbye
- D. specific connections, follow-up, and contingency steps

110. In a client-centered treatment setting, when a client is in acute distress, counseling interventions should be

- A. delayed without reason
- B. grounded in safety, stabilization, and available supports
- C. focused on intensive insight first
- D. based on counselor self-disclosure

111. While planning safe and ethical care, the counselor should document a referral by recording

- A. unverified assumptions
- B. personal opinions

- C. only the referral name
- D. the need, options discussed, client response, and follow-up plan

112. For a counselor considering the next best response, a client says, "I want to change, but I am scared." The most helpful response is

- A. "You are refusing treatment."
- B. "You are seeing both reasons for change and reasons for caution."
- C. "You must decide now."
- D. "You have no reason to be scared."

113. During a routine counseling case review, an effective intervention for a high-risk situation is to

- A. wait until use occurs
- B. avoid discussing the situation
- C. rehearse coping and support-contact steps in advance
- D. rely on luck

114. In a client-centered treatment setting, a dual relationship is concerning when it

- A. creates competing roles that may impair professional judgment
- B. uses supervision
- C. involves routine documentation
- D. includes informed consent

115. While planning safe and ethical care, appropriate counselor self-disclosure should be

- A. the focus of every session
- B. purposeful, brief, and clearly for the client's benefit
- C. a substitute for empathy
- D. used to meet counselor needs

116. For a counselor considering the next best response, when a client need exceeds scope of practice, the counselor should

- A. seek supervision and make an appropriate referral
- B. provide services beyond competence
- C. diagnose without authority
- D. ignore the need

117. During a routine counseling case review, good clinical documentation is

- A. written only at discharge
- B. based on rumors
- C. filled with judgmental labels
- D. objective, timely, and relevant to services provided

118. In a client-centered treatment setting, the main purpose of confidentiality is to

- A. prevent all communication
- B. guarantee no legal exceptions
- C. protect private client information and support trust
- D. eliminate documentation

119. While planning safe and ethical care, before sharing information with another provider, the counselor should generally

- A. post the information
- B. verify consent and the legal basis for disclosure
- C. send the full record automatically
- D. ask another client

120. For a counselor considering the next best response, informed consent should include

- A. only the counselor's credentials
- B. a promise of cure
- C. the nature of services, risks, benefits, alternatives, and limits
- D. unlimited access to records

121. During a routine counseling case review, a conflict of interest should be addressed by

- A. making the client decide alone
- B. ignoring its effect
- C. hiding it from the client
- D. disclosing and managing it according to ethics and policy

122. In a client-centered treatment setting, supervision is especially important when a counselor

- A. faces a complex case or uncertainty within scope
- B. wants to avoid consultation
- C. disagrees with all policies
- D. has completed paperwork

123. While planning safe and ethical care, a client grievance should be handled by

- A. punishing the client
- B. explaining the process and responding respectfully without retaliation
- C. ignoring the concern
- D. ending services immediately

124. For a counselor considering the next best response, client rights include the right to

- A. participate in informed decisions about care
- B. direct the counselor's personal life
- C. waive all confidentiality limits unknowingly
- D. receive guaranteed outcomes

125. During a routine counseling case review, cultural humility requires a counselor to

- A. claim expertise in every culture
- B. avoid discussing differences
- C. remain open to learning and examine assumptions
- D. treat identity as irrelevant

126. In a client-centered treatment setting, when a counselor notices strong emotional reactions to a client, the best action is to

- A. disclose every reaction
- B. act on the feelings
- C. ignore potential impact
- D. use self-awareness and seek supervision as needed

127. While planning safe and ethical care, records should be maintained according to

- A. informal verbal agreements
- B. applicable law, ethics, policy, and professional standards
- C. client rumors
- D. a counselor's personal preference

128. For a counselor considering the next best response, the minimum-necessary principle supports

- A. limiting disclosures to information needed for the purpose
- B. avoiding consent

- C. withholding all information
- D. sharing everything available

129. During a routine counseling case review, a counselor who receives a subpoena should

- A. destroy records
- B. promise immediate disclosure
- C. follow organizational and legal procedures and seek consultation
- D. ignore the document

130. In a client-centered treatment setting, professional boundaries are maintained by

- A. seeking favors from clients
- B. keeping the relationship focused on the client's therapeutic needs
- C. sharing private contact freely
- D. accepting any gift without review

131. While planning safe and ethical care, a counselor should use social media with clients by

- A. discussing cases publicly
- B. posting client stories
- C. accepting all friend requests
- D. following policy and avoiding boundary-compromising contact

132. For a counselor considering the next best response, when a client requests access to records, the counselor should

- A. refuse without review
- B. alter the record first
- C. give another client's records
- D. follow applicable procedures and explain the process

133. During a routine counseling case review, ethical decision making is strengthened by

- A. consulting standards, supervision, and relevant policies
- B. avoiding documentation
- C. relying only on impulse
- D. keeping dilemmas secret

134. In a client-centered treatment setting, a counselor should advocate for equity by

- A. assuming services fit everyone
- B. ignoring language barriers
- C. identifying barriers and supporting fair access to care
- D. making decisions from stereotypes

135. While planning safe and ethical care, when a client appears unable to understand consent, the counselor should

- A. assume refusal
- B. assess capacity concerns and follow appropriate safeguards
- C. obtain a signature without explanation
- D. proceed without discussion

136. For a counselor considering the next best response, a referral relationship is ethically sound when the counselor

- A. limits options for profit
- B. receives undisclosed incentives
- C. prioritizes client need over personal benefit
- D. chooses based on friendship

137. During a routine counseling case review, consultation differs from supervision because consultation generally

- A. eliminates responsibility
- B. replaces all documentation
- C. guarantees legal immunity
- D. provides professional input without assuming supervisory authority

138. In a client-centered treatment setting, a counselor should address a colleague's unsafe conduct by

- A. following ethical and organizational reporting procedures
- B. ignoring serious risk
- C. posting allegations online
- D. gossiping with clients

139. While planning safe and ethical care, when a client offers an expensive gift, the counselor should

- A. consider boundaries, policy, and potential impact before responding
- B. demand a larger gift
- C. assume it has no meaning
- D. accept it secretly

140. For a counselor considering the next best response, a clinician's documentation should distinguish

- A. all sources as identical
- B. facts from guesses only
- C. observed facts, client statements, and professional actions
- D. opinions from records entirely

141. During a routine counseling case review, the best response to a confidentiality question is to

- A. avoid the question
- B. provide legal advice outside scope
- C. promise absolute secrecy
- D. explain limits clearly in language the client can understand

142. In a client-centered treatment setting, if a counselor has a personal relationship with a prospective client, the counselor should

- A. ask the client to keep it secret
- B. evaluate the boundary risk and arrange alternatives when needed
- C. begin treatment without reflection
- D. hide the relationship

143. While planning safe and ethical care, continuing education supports ethical practice by

- A. helping counselors maintain competence and current knowledge
- B. guaranteeing expertise in all areas
- C. replacing supervision
- D. removing scope limits

144. For a counselor considering the next best response, a counselor addressing discrimination in services should

- A. blame the client
- B. ignore the pattern
- C. share confidential details publicly
- D. document concerns and use appropriate advocacy channels

145. During a routine counseling case review, professional self-care is relevant to ethics because it can

- A. justify boundary violations
- B. eliminate the need for supervision
- C. support competent practice and reduce impairment risk
- D. replace clinical skill

146. In a client-centered treatment setting, a client's informed refusal should be

- A. ignored completely
- B. documented and explored respectfully, including alternatives when appropriate
- C. treated as misconduct
- D. publicly discussed

147. While planning safe and ethical care, the counselor should obtain consultation when

- A. the counselor wants no oversight
- B. the client agrees with treatment
- C. a case is routine
- D. legal or ethical duties are unclear

148. For a counselor considering the next best response, a boundary crossing is most concerning when it

- A. follows written policy
- B. primarily serves the counselor rather than the client
- C. supports a clearly therapeutic purpose
- D. is discussed in supervision

149. During a routine counseling case review, when ending services, the counselor should

- A. abandon the client
- B. avoid documentation
- C. provide appropriate transition planning and referrals when indicated

D. withhold options

150. In a client-centered treatment setting, ethical use of client examples in teaching requires

- A. protecting privacy and following applicable permissions and standards
- B. including identifying details
- C. sharing stories for entertainment
- D. posting materials without review

Practice Exam 13: Answer Key and Explanations

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