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Pelvic Inflammatory Disease

Patient name: _____ Admission: _____

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- I. **The client/caregiver can define pelvic inflammatory disease (PID).**
 - A. It is an infection and inflammation of the upper genital tract in women.
 - B. It affects the
 - Uterus
 - Fallopian tubes
 - Ovaries
 - C. Damage to these organs result from scarring caused by the infection and inflammation.
 - D. It is the most common preventable cause of infertility in the United States.
 - E. The Centers for Disease Control reports that more than 1 million women seek treatment for PID each year. A similar or greater number of women may have pelvic inflammatory disease and not be aware of it.
 - F. The most common cause is from bacteria that cause chlamydia and gonorrhea.

- II. **The client/caregiver can list risk factors for pelvic inflammatory disease.**
 - A. Same women who are at risk for sexually transmitted infections
 - B. Women with history of previous pelvic inflammatory disease
 - C. Sexually active women under the age of 25
 - D. Douching
 - E. Occasionally, an intrauterine device
 - F. Black and Hispanic women

- III. **The client/caregiver can list signs and symptoms of pelvic inflammatory disease.**
 - A. You may not have symptoms.
 - B. The most common symptom is pain in lower abdomen. Others are
 - Fever
 - Vaginal discharge that may have an odor
 - Painful intercourse

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- Painful urination
- Irregular menstrual bleeding
- C. Sometimes pelvic inflammatory disease causes symptoms of extreme pain, and a fever will appear suddenly.

- IV. **The client/caregiver can list possible complications from pelvic inflammatory disease.**
 - A. Atopic or tubal pregnancy (rupture of tube causes internal bleeding and is life threatening)
 - B. Infertility (about one of eight women with pelvic inflammatory disease become infertile)
 - C. Chronic pelvic pain

- V. **The client/caregiver can list treatment and preventive measures for pelvic inflammatory disease.**
 - A. Know symptoms and report to health care provider promptly if symptoms appear.
 - B. Take medication as prescribed. Be sure to finish taking all of medications.
 - C. Surgery may be recommended if medical treatment not effective.
 - D. Client's sex partner(s) should be treated even if symptoms are not apparent.
 - E. Avoid sex with partner who has not been treated.
 - F. Abstain from sex or be in a long-term monogamous relationship.
 - G. A consistent use of condoms can reduce risk.
 - H. The Centers for Disease Control recommend
 - 1. Yearly chlamydia testing of all sexually active women age 25 or younger or older women with new or multiple partners
 - 2. Retesting after treatment to ensure chlamydia treatment effective

(Continued)

RESOURCES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of
Sexually Transmitted Diseases Prevention
800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636)
www.cdc.gov/std

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Prevention Information Network
800-458-5231
www.cdcnpin.org

American Social Health Association
www.ashstd.org

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
www.acog.org/

REFERENCES

Ackley, B. J., & Ladwig, G. B. (2006). *Nursing diagnosis handbook: A guide to planning care*. St. Louis: Mosby Inc.
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