Quick Quiz: Aortic dissection

1. The most common cause of aortic damage from chest trauma is
   a. stab wounds.
   b. gunshot wounds.
   c. high-speed impact of a motor vehicle crash.
   d. penetrating injuries.

2. Which of the following provides a definitive diagnosis of aortic disruption?
   a. chest X-ray
   b. contrast-enhanced CT scan
   c. echocardiogram
   d. TEE

3. Dissecting aortic aneurysms are caused by
   a. a weakening of the outer wall of the aorta.
   b. the destruction of the inner wall of the aorta.
   c. an out-pouching of the aorta.
   d. blood accumulation in out-pouched areas.

4. Both aortic aneurysms and dissections are due to the effects of
   a. plaque rupture.
   b. trauma.
   c. collected blood clots.
   d. hypertension and atherosclerosis.

5. Patients with an abdominal aortic aneurysm often present with persistent
   a. epigastric pain.
   b. lower abdominal pain.
   c. flank pain.
   d. lower back pain.

6. Surgical repair of an aneurysm is
   a. rarely required.
   b. indicated for any aneurysm greater than 2 cm.
   c. indicated for any aneurysm greater than 5 cm.
   d. always required.

7. Medical management of an aneurysm would include administration of
   a. daily aspirin.
   b. coumadin.
   c. digoxin.
   d. beta blockers.

8. To avoid excessive strain on the aorta prior to aortic surgery, monitor the patient’s
   a. level of anticoagulation.
   b. pedal pulses.
   c. blood pressure.
   d. renal function.

Quick Quiz is available online at http://www.nursing2007.com (click the “Educators” button).