

DISCLOSING ADVERSE OUTCOMES

Test Questions

Multiple Choice

1. Which of the following would be considered an adverse outcome:
 - A. A known side effect of a drug
 - B. An unexpected finding on a diagnostic test
 - C. A post-operative wound infection
 - D. A wrong diagnosis due to a misread x-ray

2. Which statement is most true:
 - A. Patients want acknowledgement of even small mistakes
 - B. Hospitals should discourage doctors from disclosing mistakes
 - C. Doctors are more likely to be sued if they disclose mistakes
 - D. Only serious, life-threatening mistakes need to be disclosed

3. When disclosing a mistake, it is better to do it:
 - A. As soon as possible after it is discovered
 - B. After several weeks have elapsed
 - C. With hospital administrator or counsel present
 - D. Evasively, so as not to appear to accept blame

True or False:

- _____ 4. A patient is more likely to consider litigation if an error was made and not disclosed in a timely manner.
- _____ 5. Accepting responsibility and expressing regret for a mistake are inappropriate steps for a physician to take.
- _____ 6. It is inviting a lawsuit to talk to the patient or family about ways to prevent such mistakes in the future.

Name: _____ **Program:** _____

Date: _____