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## CME examination

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Strickler AG, Shah P, Bajaj S, Mizuguchi R, Nijhawan RI, Oduyungbo M, Rossi A, Ratner D. J Am Acad Dermatol 2021;84:895-903.

*Directions for questions 1-4: Choose the single best response.*

An 84-year-old patient presents for excision of a squamous cell carcinoma on the scalp. During the history-taking and physical examination, you learn that the patient has a cochlear implant that is close to the squamous cell carcinoma you plan to excise.

1. What is the closest distance from the cochlear implant that is recommended if using bipolar forceps for hemostasis?
  - a. 1 cm
  - b. 5 cm
  - c. 3 cm
  - d. 3.5 cm
  - e. 2.5 cm

You are providing education to a new provider about electro-surgical procedures in your practice. You explain that smoke evacuation equipment needs to be held at a certain distance away from the target site to prevent inhalation of harmful substances found in the surgical smoke plume.

2. What distance away from the site do you tell her is necessary in this case?
  - a. 0.2 cm
  - b. 1 cm
  - c. 3 cm
  - d. 5 cm
  - e. 10 cm

You are planning an excision of a squamous cell carcinoma on the arm of a 63-year-old patient. The patient tells you that they tested positive for methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* during a recent hospital stay. The patient expresses concern that they will get an infection at the surgery site.

3. What is the recommended course of action?
  - a. Prescribe a 10-day course of trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole after surgery
  - b. Explain to the patient that no further antibiotics or other precautions are necessary
  - c. Prescribe a presurgery 10-day course of doxycycline with intranasal mupirocin
  - d. Prescribe intranasal mupirocin and chlorhexidine gluconate body wash before surgery
  - e. Prescribe a 7-day course of doxycycline before surgery

A patient for whom you have performed a layered closure repair of a small squamous cell carcinoma on the arm calls to tell you that they believe the site is infected. You look up the date of surgery in the patient's chart.

4. To be classified as a surgical site infection, the American Heart Association guidelines include which postsurgical time frame in their criteria?
  - a. <10 days
  - b. <60 days
  - c. <30 days
  - d. <9 days
  - e. <15 days