**Suggested Answers to Discussion Topics, Chapter 35, The Endocrine System**

| Suggested Answers for Topics for Discussion | Learning Objectives |
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| 1a. Students’ responses should include the following:   * Excessive thirst * Complaints of being very hungry * Complaints of weakness or dizziness * Drowsiness or confusion * Shaking * Increased perspiration * Nausea and vomiting * Large urine output * Loss of consciousness * Rapid pulse * Decreased blood pressure * Complaints of headache * Slow respirations that are labored with sweet-smelling breath * Convulsions   1b. Students’ responses should include the following:   * Because of damaged blood vessels, their poor circulation places them at a high risk for infection of their surgical wound. * Their poor circulation can slow tissue healing and blood clots especially in the lower extremities. * If they are having difficulty moving, there is an increased risk of pressure ulcers. * They are at risk for hypoglycemia or hyperglycemia due to surgical trauma and stress. | 6, 7 |
| 2a. Students’ responses should include the following:   * Are they less tired, and do they have more energy? * Has their strength begun to improve? * Has their mood become more upbeat? * Has their appetite improved and are they eating more? * What is their weight today? Are they losing weight? * Are their stools regular, soft, and formed? * Do they have fewer complaints of feeling cold?   2b. Students’ responses should include the following:   * Because of weakness, fatigue, and loss of strength, they would need assistance with ambulation. * It would be important to offer them meals including foods they is fond of to stimulate their appetite. * Encouraging them to socialize and go to activities, which will help with their depression. * Monitor their bowel movements for constipation. * Offer blankets and sweaters as requested.   2c. Students’ responses should include the following:   * Aging slows down: * The amount of hormones produced. * The secretion by the endocrine glands. | 5, 6, 7 |