**Discussion Topics, Chapter 36, The Digestive System**

| Topics for Discussion | Learning Objective(s) |
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| 1. Mary Higgins is a new resident at your nursing center. They are 94 years old. Mary has rheumatoid arthritis with multiple deformities and requires assistance with all activities of daily living. They are rarely incontinent of bladder and are continent of stool. The nurse has requested that you observe Mary for any problems they may have with eating and elimination.   1. What are some effects on the digestive system of aging, diet, and immobility you will be observing for? 2. How will you assist Mary to improve their digestion and avoid constipation? | 3 |
| 2. Delores Kemp is a 50-year-old who has symptoms of possible hiatal hernia. They are admitted to your unit to confirm that diagnosis.   1. What symptoms might you expect them to have? 2. What is your greatest responsibility in caring for them? | 4 |