CASE STUDY #1: GONORRHEA

B.C., a 25-year-old college student, had intercourse with a prostitute while on vacation. He returned home three days later and had intercourse with his fiancee, J.L. The next day, he experienced pain and burning on urination. A few hours later, he noticed a yellowish-white discharge from his penis. A diagnosis of gonorrhea was made. B.C. told J.L. about his infection, and she became very upset.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

What symptoms will J.L. have if she becomes infected?

What physical examination and laboratory procedures are required to establish a diagnosis of gonorrhea in B.C. and J.L.?

What measures can be used to assist the couple in coping with the psychological implications of the infection?

What treatment will be prescribed for B.C.?

What medical treatment might be prescribed for B.C., who is allergic to penicillin?

What are the possible complications of untreated gonorrhea in men and in women?

Identify nursing diagnoses, goals, and expected outcomes for B.C. and J.L.