Medical Quiz: Single Best Answer (SBA)

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Question No. 01

A 22-year-old woman complains of dizziness and feeling light-headed. She works in an office and most frequently experiences this when standing up to go to the toilet. She has never fainted. The patient has lost 5 kg weight, but attributes this to eating more healthily. She has noticed a recent scar on the back of her hand which has started to turn very dark.

The most appropriate investigation to diagnose this condition is:

- A. Synacthen test
- B. Low-dose dexamethasone test
- C. Cortisol measurement
- D. Urinary free cortisol measurement
- E. Abdominal ultrasound (US) scan

Question No. 02

A 43-year-old woman presents to emergency with epigastric pain that started 4 hours ago. The woman describes the pain as being sharp and radiating to her back. She feels nauseous but has not vomited and is fully alert and orientated. The patient responds well to IV fluids and analgesia.

Her biochemical blood results show:

- Bilirubin 8 ìmol/L
- ALT 38 IU/L
- AST 34 IU/L
- ALP 421 IU/L
- Amylase 1850 U/L

The most appropriate investigation would be:

- A. Abdominal ultrasound (US) scan
- B. Computed tomography (CT) scan
- C. Erect chest x-ray
- D. Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)
- E. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan

Ouestion No. 03

A 19-year-old medical student presents to emergency with a 1-week history of fever, anorexia and a sore throat.

Author Informations

Address of correspondence: Dr. Jamal Uddin Ahmed, Assistant Professor of Medicine, BIRDEM & IMC, Dhaka

On examination, she is pyrexial at 39°C and cervical, axillary and inguinal lymph nodes are palpable. Palatal petechiae are visible within the mouth and her tonsils appear inflamed. A full blood count reveals a lymphocytosis and a blood film reveals the presence of atypical lymphocytes.

What is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Toxoplasmosis
- B. Cytomegalovirus infection
- C. Infectious mononucleosis
- D. Streptococcal sore throat
- E. Influenza

Ouestion No. 04

A 62-year-old male presents with palpitations, which are shown on ECG to be atrial fibrillation with a ventricular rate of approximately 130/minute. He has mild central chest discomfort but is not acutely distressed. He first noticed these about 3 hours before coming to hospital. As far as is known this is his first episode of this kind.

Which of the following would you prefer as first-line therapy?

- A. Anticoagulate with heparin and start digoxin at standard daily dose
- B. Attempt DC cardioversion
- Administer bisoprolol and verapamil, and give warfarin
- D. Attempt cardioversion with IV flecainide
- Wait to see if there is spontaneous reversion to sinus rhythm

Question No. 05

A 55-year-old woman presents to the OPD with shortness of breath and dry cough. The symptoms began a few months ago and have progressed. She has a past medical history of rheumatoid arthritis, diagnosed ten years earlier. She is normotensive. On respiratory examination, there are bibasal fine inspiratory crackles on auscultation.

What is the most likely cause of her symptoms?

- A. Pulmonary edema
- B. Bronchiectasis
- C. Pleural effusions
- D. Pulmonary fibrosis
- E. Pulmonary nodules