

UK Medical School AKT Practice Exam

The MS AKT Exam Board has put together a 200-item practice exam (2 x 100 item papers) to help medical students prepare for the UK Medical School Applied Knowledge Test (MS AKT). Blueprinted to the GMC Content Map this exam has been designed to reflect the style and type of question that students will encounter when the MS AKT goes live in 2024-25 or 2023-24 for schools that have penultimate year exams.

The practice exam comes with and without the answer options.

We would like to recognise the contribution of medical schools, and members of the AKT Exam Board in particular, in producing this exam which we hope students will find a valuable resource.

Should you have any questions about the clinical content of the practice exam please speak to the Assessment Lead in your school in the first instance.

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MS AKT Practice Exam with answers

Paper 1

1. A 24 year old man has poor urine flow and takes a very long time to empty his bladder. He has no other urinary symptoms. He has been well previously apart from one episode of non-gonococcal urethritis 1 year ago.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Overactive bladder
- B. Neurogenic bladder
- C. Phimosis
- D. Prostatic hypertrophy
- E. Urethral stricture

Correct Answer: E

2. A 67 year old man is found to have an ejection systolic murmur. He is otherwise well. His pulse rate is 72 bpm and BP 128/84 mmHg. His chest is clear.

Investigations:

ECG shows sinus rhythm.

Echocardiography shows aortic stenosis, valve gradient 50 mmHg. Left ventricular (LV) diastolic dysfunction, LV ejection fraction 45% (>55).

Which is the most appropriate management?

- A. Clinical review and echocardiography in 6 months
- B. Reassure and discharge
- C. Refer for aortic valve replacement
- D. Start bisoprolol fumarate and advise review if symptomatic
- E. Start lisinopril and advise review if symptomatic

Correct Answer: C

3. A 27 year old woman has muscle weakness which is worse on exercise. When asked to count from one to 100 her voice progressively becomes weaker. She has bilateral ptosis.

Which pathophysiological process is most likely to be responsible for this disorder?

- A. Autoimmunity
- B. Genetic disorder
- C. Infarction
- D. Malignancy
- E. Meningeal infection

Correct Answer: A

4. A 60 year old man has 6 months of dry cough and increasing shortness of breath on effort. He was previously fit and well, and is a non-smoker.

His temperature is 36.8°C, pulse rate 60 bpm and oxygen saturation 89% breathing air.

He has finger clubbing. Cardiac examination is normal, and chest examination reveals bibasal crepitations.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Bronchiectasis
- B. Extrinsic allergic alveolitis
- C. Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis
- D. Lung carcinoma
- E. Pulmonary tuberculosis

Correct Answer: C

5. A 46 year old man has pain in his left leg and tingling in his left big toe. He developed severe lower back pain 1 week ago and he is unable to walk on his left heel. There is loss of pinprick perception over the left great toe.

Which nerve root is the most likely to have been affected?

- A. L1
- B. L3
- C. L5
- D. S1
- E. S2

Correct Answer: C

6. A 65 year old man attends the anticoagulant clinic. He has had a metal mitral valve replacement and atrial fibrillation. He takes warfarin 7 mg daily.

There are no signs of bleeding. His pulse rate is 70 bpm, irregularly irregular, with a mechanical second heart sound. His INR is 5.1.

Which is the most appropriate next step in management?

- A. Continue warfarin at lower dose
- B. Continue warfarin at same dose
- C. Give vitamin K intravenously
- D. Give vitamin K orally
- E. Withhold warfarin for 2 days then restart at lower dose

Correct Answer: E

7. A 52 year old man has three days of severe epigastric pain, radiating to his back, but no chest pain. He has vomited several times. He was previously well. He drinks approximately 60 units of alcohol a week and smokes 20 cigarettes per day.

There is epigastric tenderness but his abdomen is not distended, and bowel sounds are present.

Which test would confirm the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Abdominal X-ray
- B. Gastroduodenoscopy
- C. Serum alkaline phosphatase concentration
- D. Serum amylase concentration
- E. Ultrasound scan of abdomen

Correct Answer: D

8. A 24 year old man attends the Emergency Department after 2 days of vomiting. He has type 1 diabetes. He is drowsy but maintaining his airway. His pulse rate is 100 bpm, BP 90/60 mmHg, respiratory rate 30 breaths per minute and oxygen saturation 96% breathing air.

Investigations:

Blood capillary glucose 32 mmol/L

Blood capillary ketones 6.2 mmol/L (<0.6)

Venous pH 7.15 (7.35–7.45)

Which is the most appropriate initial treatment?

- A. Intravenous 0.9% sodium chloride
- B. Intravenous 1.26% sodium bicarbonate
- C. Intravenous antibiotics
- D. Intravenous insulin
- E. Subcutaneous insulin

Correct Answer: A

9. A 55 year old man is rescued from a collapsed building where he has been trapped for 12 hours without water. His temperature is 35.6°C, pulse rate 100 bpm and BP 90/42 mmHg. His JVP is not visible. His abdomen is non tender.

Investigations:

Haemoglobin 168 g/L (130–175)
Sodium 148 mmol/L (135–146)
Potassium 6.0 mmol/L (3.5–5.3)
Urea 25.1 mmol/L (2.5–7.8)
Creatinine 184 µmol/L (60–120)
Creatine kinase 840 U/L (25–200)

Which is the most likely cause of this biochemical picture?

- A. Bladder outflow obstruction
- B. Direct renal trauma
- C. Hypovolaemia
- D. Rhabdomyolysis
- E. Sepsis

Correct Answer: C

- 10.** A 24 year old woman has diarrhoea. She is HIV positive and has been working in Namibia.

Investigation:

Faeces microscopy (following modified Ziehl–Neelsen stain): protozoa

Which is the most likely causative organism?

- A. Acanthamoeba
- B. Cryptosporidium parvum
- C. Entamoeba coli
- D. Plasmodium falciparum
- E. Schistosoma mansoni

Correct Answer: B

11. A 67 year old man has difficulty chewing and speaking. He underwent carotid surgery 2 days ago.

His tongue deviates to the right when he is asked to protrude it.

Which nerve has been damaged?

- A. Left glossopharyngeal nerve
- B. Left hypoglossal nerve
- C. Left vagus nerve
- D. Right glossopharyngeal nerve
- E. Right hypoglossal nerve

Correct Answer: E

- 12.** An 18 year old woman has had 3 years of intermittent zig-zagging and flashing lights in both eyes associated with headache. These episodes occur 2-3 times per month, last approximately half an hour, and are associated with nausea and vomiting. Her vision is affected at the time of each episode but returns to normal afterwards.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A.** Acute glaucoma
- B.** Migraine
- C.** Occipital lobe epilepsy
- D.** Retinal detachment
- E.** Tension-type headache

Correct Answer: B

- 13.** A 75 year old man has had 3 days of intermittent headaches, blurred vision and vomiting. For the past 24 hours he has had a severe left sided headache and eye pain, accompanied by blurred vision and vomiting. His left eye is red and the left pupil is dilated.

Which investigation is most likely to confirm the diagnosis?

- A. CT scan of head
- B. Erythrocyte sedimentation rate
- C. Fluorescein staining of the cornea
- D. Measurement of intraocular pressure
- E. MR scan of head

Correct Answer: D

- 14.** A 72 year old woman has had 4 months of progressive difficulty walking. She describes numbness and tingling in her feet and has fallen on several occasions.

On examination of her lower limbs, she has normal tone, moderate weakness of ankle dorsiflexion and plantar flexion, normal knee jerks, but absent ankle jerks and extensor plantars. Romberg's test is positive. She has reduced vibration sense, and joint position sense is impaired up to the ankle joints. Temperature and pinprick sensations are normal.

Which investigation is most likely to confirm the diagnosis?

- A.** HbA_{1c}
- B.** Serum folate
- C.** Serum protein electrophoresis
- D.** Serum vitamin B₁₂
- E.** Serum vitamin D

Correct Answer: D

15. A 34 year old woman has a recurrent itchy rash (see image). She is a firefighter and says that she does not want any treatments that may affect her level of alertness.



Which is the most appropriate treatment to control her symptoms?

- A. Oral chlorphenamine maleate
- B. Oral loratadine
- C. Oral prednisolone
- D. Topical aqueous cream
- E. Topical hydrocortisone

Correct Answer: B

16. A 29 year old woman has 2 days of marked loss of vision and acute pain in her left eye. The pain is worse when she changes her gaze direction. Her eyes appear normal on general inspection. Her vision is 'count fingers only' in the affected eye. The swinging flashlight test shows that the left pupil dilates when a bright light is moved from the right eye to the left eye. The optic discs are normal on fundoscopy.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A.** Acute closed angle glaucoma
- B.** Giant cell arteritis
- C.** Idiopathic intracranial hypertension
- D.** Migraine with aura
- E.** Retrobulbar optic neuritis

Correct Answer: E

17. A 45 year old woman develops an intensely painful eruption around her right eye. The illness started with pain 5 days previously, followed by the appearance of a few vesicles, which has now developed into the rash (see image). She has no significant medical history. Treatment is started.



Which is the most likely long-term outcome?

- A. Complete resolution with no sequelae
- B. Corneal ulceration
- C. Extensive scarring of the right temple
- D. Partial ptosis
- E. Reduced visual acuity

Correct Answer: A

18. A 48 year old woman has rheumatoid arthritis. She takes regular paracetamol and has no drug allergies. She is due to commence methotrexate weekly.

Which additional treatment should be prescribed?

- A. Calcium carbonate
- B. Folic acid
- C. Pyridoxine hydrochloride
- D. Thiamine
- E. Vitamin D

Correct Answer: B

- 19.** A 74 year old woman has 6 months of progressive weakness of her right leg and 3 months of a similar problem on the left, resulting in several falls. She has also noticed difficulty using her hands and can no longer fasten the buttons on her clothes.

There is wasting of both legs and the hands, particularly the thenar eminences. There is fasciculation in her right quadriceps. Tone is increased in both legs, with brisk reflexes.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A.** Chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy
- B.** Motor neurone disease
- C.** Multiple sclerosis
- D.** Myasthenia gravis
- E.** Polymyositis

Correct Answer: B

- 20.** A 61 year old man has had 2 months of ankle swelling. He has hypertension and a 30 year history of seronegative polyarthritis. His medication includes ramipril, sulfasalazine, hydroxychloroquine sulfate and diclofenac.

His BP is 156/90 mmHg. He has pitting oedema to mid thigh and signs of chronic deforming polyarthropathy in his hands, but no joint tenderness. His optic fundi show silver wiring and arteriovenous nipping. Urinalysis: protein 4+, no other abnormalities.

Investigations:

Sodium 133 mmol/L (135–146)

Potassium 5.4 mmol/L (3.5–5.3)

Urea 9.0 mmol/L (2.5–7.8)

Creatinine 119 µmol/L (60–120)

Albumin 21 g/L (35–50)

CRP 43 mg/L (<5)

Urinary protein:creatinine ratio 1100 mg/mmol (<30)

Which is the most appropriate initial treatment?

- A. Candesartan cilexetil
- B. Furosemide
- C. Indapamide
- D. Prednisolone
- E. Prednisolone and cyclophosphamide

Correct Answer: B

21. A 75 year old woman has had 5 months of a 2 cm red plaque on her leg.

Investigation:

Skin biopsy: Bowen's disease

Which is the most appropriate topical treatment?

- A.** 5-fluorouracil (Efudix[®]) cream
- B.** Betamethasone valerate (Betnovate[®]) cream
- C.** Diclofenac (Solaraze[®]) gel
- D.** Isotretinoin gel
- E.** Salicylic acid gel

Correct Answer: A

22. A 32 year old woman has had palpitations and hot flushes for 4 weeks. She has noticed a painless swelling in her neck over the same time and her weight has decreased by 2 kg. She gave birth 4 months ago after a normal pregnancy. She is not breastfeeding.

Her pulse rate is 120 bpm and BP 140/90 mmHg. She is tremulous and restless. She has a large smooth non-tender goitre.

Investigations:

Free T4 35.6 pmol/L (9–25)

Free T3 10.8 pmol/L (4.0–7.2)

TSH <0.01 mU/L (0.3–4.2)

Thyroid peroxidase antibodies >1600 IU/L (<50)

Thyroid stimulating antibodies <1.0 IU/L (<1.75)

Which is the most appropriate initial treatment?

- A. Carbimazole
- B. Propranolol
- C. Propylthiouracil
- D. Thyroidectomy
- E. Thyrotropin alfa

Correct Answer: B

23. An 80 year old man has an ulcer over the left heel and reduced mobility. He has a loss of appetite. He has type 2 diabetes mellitus and has previously had a myocardial infarction.

The ulcer is 3 cm in diameter and deeply penetrating. Sensory testing shows reduced vibration sense but normal sensation to light touch. His Doppler ratio (ankle brachial pressure index) on the left is 0.68 and on the right is 0.98 (normal value 1.00).

Which is the most likely mechanism of his ulcer?

- A.** Arterial
- B.** Neuropathic
- C.** Nutritional
- D.** Vasculitic
- E.** Venous

Correct Answer: A

24. A 73 year old man is in hospital with a chest infection. He has several episodes of confusion, anxiety and aggression, during which he attempts to leave the hospital. He is convinced he is being 'spied on' by the doctors and nurses and insists that 'cameras have been installed in my room'. These episodes alternate with periods of marked lethargy, which become more pronounced towards the evening.

His temperature is 37.8°C, pulse rate 100 bpm, BP 110/73 mmHg and respiratory rate 12 breaths per minute.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Alzheimer's dementia
- B. Bipolar disorder
- C. Delirium
- D. Lewy body dementia
- E. Schizophrenia

Correct Answer: C

25. A 78 year old woman is admitted to the surgical unit with a suspected vesicocolic fistula. She has a history of hypertension, type 2 diabetes mellitus and angina. She is taking amlodipine, metformin, gliclazide, simvastatin and bisoprolol. Her serum creatinine is 120 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ (60–120). The consultant surgeon requests a CT scan of abdomen with contrast.

Which medication should be stopped before her CT scan?

- A. Amlodipine
- B. Bisoprolol
- C. Gliclazide
- D. Metformin
- E. Simvastatin

Correct Answer: D

26. A 50 year old man has a 3 month history of right loin pain and weight loss. For the past 20 years, he has smoked ten cigarettes per day. His temperature is 37.4°C, pulse rate is 72 bpm and BP is 142/74 mmHg.

Investigations:

Haemoglobin 11.2 g/L (130–175)

Platelets $340 \times 10^9/L$ (150–400)

White cell count $10.1 \times 10^9/L$ (4.0–11.0)

Urinalysis blood 3+

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Benign prostatic hypertrophy
- B. Pyelonephritis
- C. Renal calculus
- D. Renal cancer
- E. Urinary tract infection

Correct Answer: D

27. A 74 year old man with type 2 diabetes has been increasingly unwell and experiencing progressive thirst and nausea for 2 weeks. Initially he described needing to pass urine more frequently than usual, but now he has not passed urine for 24 hours.

He is dehydrated.

Investigations:

Sodium 149 mmol/L (135–146)

Potassium 5.2 mmol/L (3.5–5.3)

Chloride 101 mmol/L (95–106)

Urea 15.4 mmol/L (2.5–7.8)

Creatinine 208 μ mol/L (60–120)

Fasting glucose 41.7 mmol/L (3.0–6.0)

Which is the calculated serum osmolality?

- A. 206.1 mmol/L
- B. 255.2 mmol/L
- C. 312.3 mmol/L
- D. 355.1 mmol/L
- E. Impossible to calculate, more information needed

Correct Answer: D

- 28.** A 65 year old man receives a renal transplant. He is transferred back to the ward after four hours in recovery.

His pulse is 106 bpm regular, BP 110/70 mmHg and respiratory rate 18 breaths per minute. His chest is clear on auscultation. His urine output has been 15–20 mL per hour while in recovery. Drain output has been 120 mL since surgery.

Investigations:

Haemoglobin 90 g/L (130–175) (preoperative level 103 g/L)

Sodium 142 mmol/L (135–146)

Potassium 5.8 mmol/L (3.5–5.3)

Urea 31.9 mmol/L (2.5–7.8)

Creatinine 590 µmol/L (60–120)

Which is the next most appropriate management step?

- A. Blood transfusion
- B. Fluid challenge
- C. Furosemide
- D. Haemofiltration
- E. Insulin and dextrose infusion

Correct Answer: B

29. A 70 year old man has a sharp stabbing pain in his jaw and cheek that lasts for seconds. He reports that the pain is triggered when brushing his teeth, cold wind and touching his face.

Which is the most appropriate treatment?

- A.** Carbamazepine
- B.** Indometacin
- C.** Morphine
- D.** Prednisolone
- E.** Pregabalin

Correct Answer: A

30. A 64 year old man has developed a tremor in both arms over the last 6 months. It is worse on the right. He also reports difficulty sleeping due to restlessness.

He appears emotionally flat and has a tremor at rest that is alleviated on movement.

Which neurotransmitter is most likely to be deficient?

- A. Acetylcholine
- B. Dopamine
- C. Glycine
- D. Norepinephrine (noradrenaline)
- E. Serotonin

Correct Answer: B

31. An 85 year old man is admitted from a nursing home with a spreading cellulitis originating from an ulcer over his right ankle. Cultures taken from the ulcer and blood have grown MRSA.

He is mildly confused. His temperature is 39.5°C, pulse rate 96 bpm and BP 114/60 mmHg.

Which is the most appropriate initial antibiotic treatment?

- A.** Co-amoxiclav
- B.** Flucloxacillin
- C.** Meropenem
- D.** Piperacillin with tazobactam
- E.** Vancomycin

Correct Answer: E

32. A 75 year old man is found collapsed at home and is brought to the Emergency Department. He has right sided weakness and reduced consciousness. He has type 2 diabetes mellitus, atrial fibrillation and hypertension. He is taking warfarin.

Investigations:

INR 4.6 (<1.4)

CT scan of the head shows a large intracranial haemorrhage.

He is given intravenous vitamin K.

Which is the most appropriate next additional treatment?

- A. Cryoprecipitate
- B. Fresh frozen plasma
- C. Fibrinogen concentrate
- D. No additional treatment needed
- E. Prothrombin complex concentrate

Correct Answer: E

33. A 76 year old woman has no energy and reports excessive tiredness for the past 3 weeks. She has lost 5 kg in weight over the past 3 months. She drinks 30 units of alcohol per week.

She is thin and jaundiced. Her temperature is 37.2°C. She has a palpable epigastric mass and 4 cm liver edge.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A.** Cholangiocarcinoma
- B.** Cholecystitis
- C.** Cirrhosis of the liver
- D.** Hepatocellular carcinoma
- E.** Pancreatic adenocarcinoma

Correct Answer: E

34. A 76 year old woman with hypertension is taking amlodipine 10 mg daily. A 24 hour BP measurement shows a mean BP of 168/90 mmHg.

Investigations:

Sodium 135 mmol/L (135–146)

Potassium 4.0 mmol/L (3.5–5.3)

Urea 7 mmol/L (2.5–7.8)

Creatinine 100 μ mol/L (60–120)

eGFR 68 mL/min/1.73 m²(>60)

Urinary albumin : creatinine ratio 50 mg/mmol (<3.5)

Which class of antihypertensive should be added?

- A. ACE inhibitor
- B. Alpha blocker
- C. Beta blocker
- D. Loop diuretic
- E. Thiazide-like diuretic

Correct Answer: A

35. A 70 year old man is an inpatient on the cardiology ward. He has worsening breathlessness that woke him up last night.

His pulse rate is 99 bpm, BP 160/100 mmHg and respiratory rate 20 breaths per minute. Auscultation of the chest reveals bibasal crepitations, and there is dullness to percussion of both bases.

Chest X-ray shows small bilateral pleural effusions with upper lobe blood vessel diversion.

Which is the most appropriate diagnostic investigation?

- A. Coronary angiography
- B. CT pulmonary angiography
- C. ECG
- D. Echocardiography
- E. Serum D dimer

Correct Answer: D

36. An 80 year old man has sudden onset of loss of vision in his right eye. He has hypertension and a previous stroke.

His visual acuity is hand movements only in the right eye and 6/9 in left eye. The right eye has an afferent pupillary defect; left eye pupil responses are normal. On fundoscopy there is a red spot at the right macula.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A.** Anterior ischaemic optic neuropathy
- B.** Branch retinal vein occlusion
- C.** Central retinal artery occlusion
- D.** Macular degeneration
- E.** Retinal detachment

Correct Answer: C

37. A 72 year old woman has had inability to sleep well for the past 3 years. She gets to sleep by 23:00 but wakes up two or three times in the night and gets up by 07:00. Her husband says that she doesn't snore. Her BMI is 23 kg/m². She carries out her normal daytime activities with no daytime somnolence. She is otherwise well. Her MMSE (Mini Mental State Examination) score is 27/30.

Which is the most likely cause of her insomnia?

- A.** Depression
- B.** Early stages of dementia
- C.** Hypomania
- D.** Normal age related sleep pattern
- E.** Obstructive sleep apnoea

Correct Answer: D

38. A 35 year old man visits his GP with 3 days of a red, painful left eye with no discharge.

There is a diffuse area of redness in the medial aspect of his left sclera. His pupils and visual acuity are normal.

Which is the most appropriate management?

- A.** Arrange assessment in emergency eye clinic
- B.** Prescribe chloramphenicol eye drops
- C.** Prescribe corticosteroid eye drops
- D.** Prescribe topical aciclovir
- E.** Reassure patient that it will resolve spontaneously

Correct Answer: A

39. An 18 year old woman is found dead, sitting in front of a gas fire that is still burning. The flue that carries gases away from the fire is found to be blocked.

Which is the principal mechanism of action of the poison involved in her death?

- A.** Binding to the site on haemoglobin normally occupied by oxygen
- B.** Converting carbon dioxide to carbonic acid in the cytoplasm of peripheral cells
- C.** Converting the iron in haem to an iron salt
- D.** Damaging the lipid bilayer of alveolar pneumocytes
- E.** Inhibiting cytochrome enzyme systems

Correct Answer: A

40. A 35 year old man with type 1 diabetes mellitus has burning pain in his feet and difficulty sleeping. He has retinopathy and nephropathy.

Investigation: eGFR 28 mL/min/1.73m²(> 60)

Which is the most appropriate management?

- A. Acupuncture
- B. Amitriptyline
- C. Duloxetine
- D. Physiotherapy
- E. Sodium valproate

Correct Answer: B

- 41.** A 24 year old woman has tiredness, bloating and weight loss with bouts of offensive smelling diarrhoea. Abdominal examination is normal.

Investigations:

Haemoglobin 10.0 g/L (115–150)

Mean cell volume (MCV) 78 fL (80–96)

Platelets $350 \times 10^9/L$ (150–400)

Duodenal biopsy shows flattening of villi and increased lymphocytes in the lamina propria and surface epithelium. In addition, there is gross crypt hyperplasia.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Carcinoid tumour
- B. Coeliac disease
- C. Collagenous enteropathy
- D. Crohn's disease
- E. Pseudomembranous enteropathy

Correct Answer: B

42. An 87 year old man develops profuse watery diarrhoea 6 days after admission for an infective exacerbation of COPD. He is currently taking oral co-amoxiclav.

Which is the most likely causative organism?

- A. *Campylobacter jejuni*
- B. *Clostridioides difficile* (*Clostridium difficile*)
- C. *Escherichia coli*
- D. Norovirus
- E. *Salmonella enteritidis*

Correct Answer: B

43. A 22 year old woman has worsening shortness of breath and cough productive of four to five tablespoons of sputum per day. She has a history of childhood pneumonia and recurrent chest infections, and coughed up blood on two occasions many years ago.

On auscultation of her chest there are bilateral scattered wheezes and coarse inspiratory crackles.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Bronchiectasis
- B. COPD
- C. Lung cancer
- D. Pulmonary fibrosis
- E. Sarcoidosis

Correct Answer: A

- 44.** A 52 year old woman has had four episodes of severe epigastric pain associated with vomiting over the past 3 months. The episodes occurred after eating and lasted for about 1 hour before complete resolution. She has a history of type 2 diabetes mellitus and takes metformin.

Abdominal examination is normal. Her BMI is 35 kg/m².

Which investigation is most likely to confirm the diagnosis?

- A.** Helicobacter stool antigen test
- B.** Liver function tests
- C.** Plain abdominal X-ray
- D.** Ultrasonography of abdomen
- E.** Upper gastrointestinal endoscopy

Correct Answer: D

- 45.** An 83 year old woman has recurring 'dizzy spells'. The episodes are associated with transient shaking of her hands that is most noticeable before her lunch and evening meals. She has hypertension and type 2 diabetes mellitus. Her medication includes metformin 1 g twice daily, gliclazide 80 mg twice daily and ramipril 10 mg daily.

Her BP is 138/82 mmHg supine and 130/78 mmHg erect. Her blood capillary glucose is 6 mmol/L.

Investigations:

Sodium 136 mmol/L (135-146)

Potassium 5.0 mmol/L (3.5-5.3)

Urea 3.9 mmol/L (2.5-7.8)

Creatinine 77 µmol/L (60-120)

Glycated haemoglobin 50 mmol/mol (20-42)

Which is the most appropriate therapeutic change?

- A. Increase gliclazide dose
- B. Increase metformin dose
- C. Reduce gliclazide dose
- D. Reduce metformin dose
- E. Reduce ramipril dose

Correct Answer: C

- 46.** A 76 year old man has progressive breathlessness with right-sided pleuritic chest pain and weight loss over 6 months. He is a retired mechanic and has a 25 pack-year smoking history.

Investigations:

Chest X-ray: marked volume loss in right hemithorax

CT scan of chest: see image



Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Asbestosis
- B. Chronic hypersensitivity pneumonitis
- C. Lung cancer
- D. Malignant pleural mesothelioma
- E. Tuberculosis

Correct Answer: D

47. A 65 year old woman has severe left-sided abdominal pain. Yesterday, she noticed blood mixed in with her stools. There is no history of weight loss.

Her temperature is 37.7°C. She is very tender on palpation in the left lower quadrant. No masses are felt on rectal examination, but there is blood on the glove.

Which is the most likely cause of her symptoms?

- A.** Angiodysplasia
- B.** Colorectal cancer
- C.** Diverticulitis
- D.** Haemorrhoids
- E.** Ulcerative colitis

Correct Answer: C

48. A 35 year old woman was admitted two days ago after taking 32 paracetamol tablets. She has alcohol use disorder and weighs 40 kg. She has been treated with a full dose of acetylcysteine.

Which investigation best demonstrates restoration of liver synthetic function?

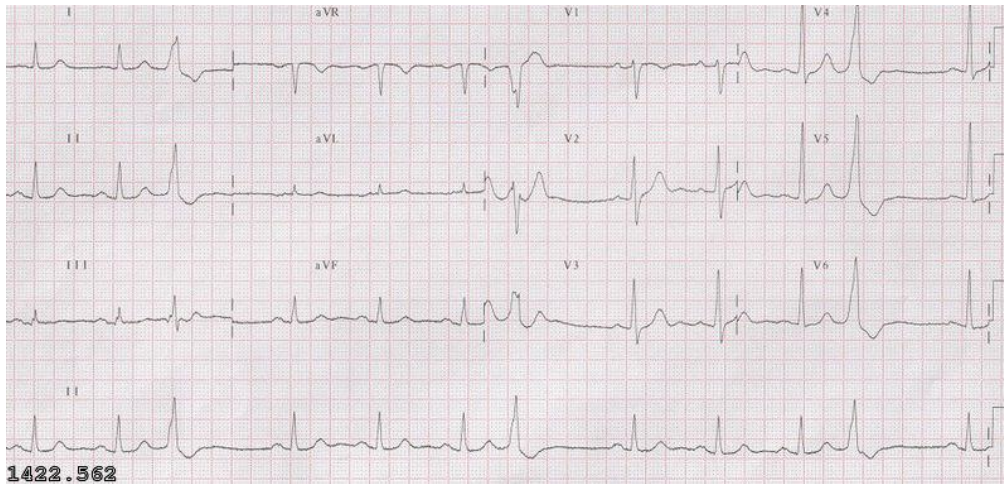
- A. Albumin
- B. ALT
- C. Bilirubin
- D. γ GT
- E. PT

Correct Answer: E

49. A 64 year old woman has thumping palpitations and says that she sometimes feels her heart 'gives a sudden jump'. Her husband recently died due to myocardial infarction.

Her pulse rate is 70 bpm, BP 136/80 mmHg. Her heart sounds are normal.

Her 12-lead ECG is shown in the tracing.



Which is the most likely cause of her palpitations?

- A. Atrial fibrillation
- B. Premature supraventricular beats
- C. Premature ventricular beats
- D. Sinus arrhythmia
- E. Ventricular tachycardia

Correct Answer: C

50. A 35 year old man has painless swelling of the right side of his scrotum.

The swelling is soft and fluctuant, and transilluminates.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Hydrocoele
- B. Inguinal hernia
- C. Testicular torsion
- D. Testicular tumour
- E. Varicocoele

Correct Answer: A

51. A 67 year old woman has an ulcer with a raised white margin on her left ear; it has been present for 3 years, growing slowly and never completely healing. She spent 20 years living in Australia before returning to the UK recently.

On examination, she has a small ulcerated area, 4 mm × 6 mm, on her left pinna.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A.** Actinic keratosis
- B.** Basal cell carcinoma
- C.** Malignant melanoma
- D.** Seborrhoeic keratosis
- E.** Squamous cell carcinoma

Correct Answer: B

52. A 90 year old man has had 3 days of spasmodic suprapubic pain radiating to the tip of the penis. His long-term urinary catheter has recently been changed. He is mildly confused.

His temperature is 38.2° C, pulse rate 88 bpm, BP 146/88 mmHg, respiratory rate 15 breaths per minute and oxygen saturation 96% breathing air. Urinalysis: dark and strong smelling, protein 1+, blood 1+, negative for leucocytes and nitrites.

Which factor(s) indicate(s) the need to start antibiotics?

- A. Blood and protein in urine
- B. Dark strong-smelling urine
- C. Fever and mild confusion
- D. Presence of pain
- E. Recent catheter change

Correct Answer: C

53. A 72 year old man with COPD has increased production of purulent sputum and dyspnoea. He has a poor appetite and can rarely finish meals.

Which is the most appropriate method of nutritional assessment?

- A.** Malnutrition Universal Screening Tool (MUST)
- B.** Mini Nutritional Assessment (MNA)
- C.** Serum albumin concentration
- D.** Skinfold thickness
- E.** Subjective Global Assessment (SGA)

Correct Answer: A

54. A 48 year old man has visible haematuria and right loin pain. His temperature is 37.3°C, pulse rate 72 bpm and BP 170/97 mmHg. Masses are palpable in both flanks.

Investigations:

Creatinine 220 µmol/L (60-120)

Urinalysis: blood 4+

Which is the most appropriate next investigation?

- A. CT scan of kidneys, ureters and bladder
- B. Cystoscopy
- C. MR scan of renal tract
- D. Ultrasound scan of renal tract
- E. Urine cytology

Correct Answer: D

55. A 35 year old man visits his GP with a severe frontal headache of 12 hours' duration. It started suddenly, reaching maximum intensity within 1 minute. He has associated nausea.

At the onset of his headache he noticed a small hole in his vision. This hole started centrally, moved to the edge of his vision and has now resolved. The headache is worse in bright light. Paracetamol has not helped his pain.

Which feature should prompt immediate referral to hospital?

- A. Abrupt onset
- B. Failure to respond to paracetamol
- C. Nausea
- D. Photophobia
- E. Visual disturbance

Correct Answer: A

56. A 28 year old man has an insurance medical.

His pulse rate is 72 bpm and BP 210/110 mmHg. There is radiofemoral delay. A systolic murmur is audible on auscultation.

Chest X-ray reveals notching of the ribs in the mid-clavicular line.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A.** Coarctation of the aorta
- B.** Dissecting aortic aneurysm
- C.** Marfan's syndrome
- D.** Renal artery stenosis
- E.** Takayasu's arteritis

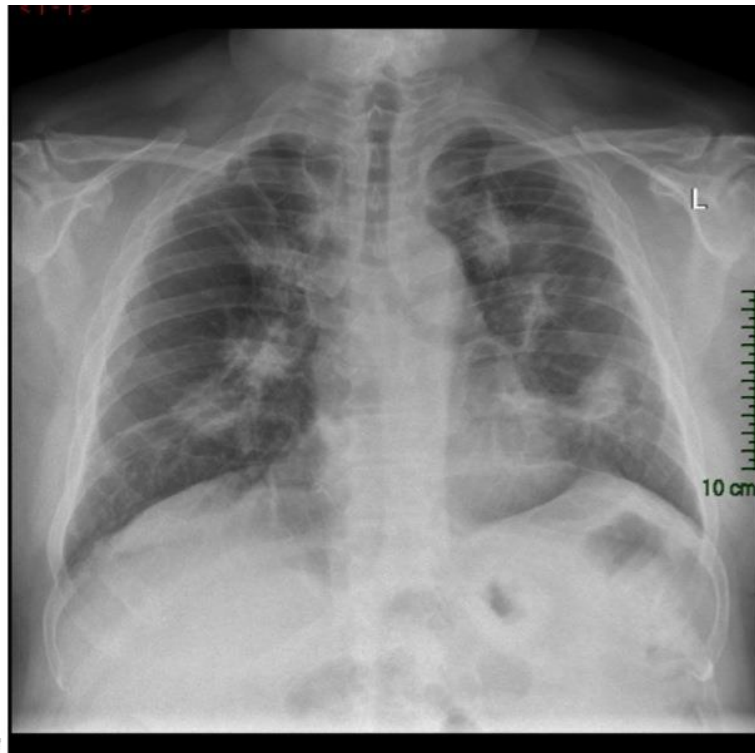
Correct Answer: A

57. A 42 year old woman has two episodes of haemoptysis. She also reports two months of sinusitis with pain, stuffiness and nose bleeds. She has some loosening of her teeth and painful oral ulceration. Previously, she noticed a rash and nodules over her elbows but they have disappeared.

Investigations:

Chest X-ray: see image

Urinalysis: occasional red cell casts



Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Behçet's disease
- B. Granulomatosis with polyangiitis
- C. Metastatic nasopharyngeal carcinoma
- D. Syphilis
- E. Tuberculosis

Correct Answer: B

58. A 19 year old man has had a sore throat, malaise and intermittent fever for 2 weeks.

His pulse rate is 74 bpm and BP 115/75 mmHg. His throat is red and tonsils are swollen. His sclerae are yellow-tinged. There are multiple soft palpable lymph nodes in the neck. There is tenderness in the right upper abdominal quadrant.

Which is the most appropriate diagnostic investigation?

- A. Epstein–Barr virus test
- B. HIV test
- C. Lymph node biopsy for histology
- D. Mantoux test
- E. Throat swab and culture

Correct Answer: A

59. A 27 year old woman has had abdominal pain for 48 hours. She also reports recurrent mouth ulcers and altered bowel habit for a few weeks.

Her temperature is 37.5°C. She has central abdominal tenderness.

Investigations:

CT colonoscopy shows a normal appendix with distal small bowel thickening.

There are enlarged nodes in the small bowel mesentery.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A.** Crohn's ileitis
- B.** Intestinal tuberculosis
- C.** Meckel's diverticulitis
- D.** Mesenteric adenitis
- E.** Small bowel lymphoma

Correct Answer: A

60. A 34 year old man has cough and weight loss.

A diagnosis of tuberculosis is confirmed and treatment is started. As part of his monitoring, he is screened for loss of visual acuity.

Which antituberculosis drug is an indication for visual monitoring?

- A.** Ethambutol hydrochloride
- B.** Isoniazid
- C.** Moxifloxacin
- D.** Pyrazinamide
- E.** Rifampicin

Correct Answer: A

61. A 21 year old woman presents to her GP with moderately severe acne. She has tried topical retinoids and topical antibiotics without satisfactory response. She has a history of a deep vein thrombosis following a long-haul flight.

Which is the most appropriate treatment?

- A. Co-cyprindiol
- B. Desogestrel
- C. Flucloxacillin
- D. Isotretinoin
- E. Lymecycline

Correct Answer: E

62. A 45 year old man has had weight loss, fatigue and polyuria for 3 months. He takes a number of multivitamin preparations.

Clinical examination is unremarkable.

Investigations:

Serum corrected calcium 2.9 mmol/L (2.2–2.6)

Phosphate 0.82 mmol/L (0.8–1.5)

Serum alkaline phosphatase 154 IU/L (25–115)

Parathyroid hormone 7.9 pmol/L (1.6–8.5)

Serum electrolytes and urea are normal.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A.** Bony metastases
- B.** Excess calcium intake
- C.** Primary hyperparathyroidism
- D.** Sarcoidosis
- E.** Vitamin D excess

Correct Answer: C

63. A 59 year old man has a 1 year history of erectile dysfunction. He has a history of angina, type 2 diabetes mellitus and peripheral vascular disease. He had a thyroidectomy 2 years ago for thyrotoxicosis. His regular medications are aspirin, diltiazem, levothyroxine, metformin, ramipril and simvastatin.

His BP is 140/90 mmHg lying and 135/85 mmHg standing. His foot pulses are not palpable. He has normal sensation in his feet.

Which is most likely to be the main cause of his erectile dysfunction?

- A. Adverse effect of medication
- B. Autonomic neuropathy
- C. Hypothyroidism
- D. Testosterone deficiency
- E. Vascular insufficiency

Correct Answer: E

64. A 52 year old man has had 3 months of fatigue. He has a history of ulcerative colitis and takes mesalazine. He drinks 20 units of alcohol per week. His temperature is 36.8°C and pulse rate 80 bpm. He has 3 cm hepatomegaly.

Investigations:

Albumin 36 g/L (35–50)

ALT 65 IU/L (10–50)

ALP 580 IU/L (25–115)

Bilirubin 18 µmol/L (<17)

γGT 230 IU/L (9–40)

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Alcoholic hepatitis
- B. Cholangiocarcinoma
- C. Choledocholithiasis
- D. Hepatocellular carcinoma
- E. Primary sclerosing cholangitis

Correct Answer: E

65. A 73 year old man has increasing breathlessness over 1 week. He has a history of chronic kidney disease and ischaemic heart disease. He takes alfacalcidol, aspirin, atorvastatin, bisoprolol fumarate, furosemide and irbesartan.

There are bibasal inspiratory crepitations and mild peripheral oedema.

Investigations:

Sodium 134 mmol/L (135–146)

Potassium 6.7 mmol/L (3.5–5.3)

Urea 19 mmol/L (2.5–7.8)

Creatinine 259 μ mol/L (60–120)

eGFR 23 mL/min/1.73 m² (>60)

Which drug is most likely to be contributing to his hyperkalaemia?

- A. Alfacalcidol
- B. Aspirin
- C. Bisoprolol fumarate
- D. Furosemide
- E. Irbesartan

Correct Answer: E

66. A 65 year old man is invited to the abdominal aortic aneurysm screening programme. An ultrasound scan shows his abdominal aorta to be 33 mm in diameter.

Which is the most appropriate management plan?

- A. Reassure and discharge
- B. Refer for angiography
- C. Refer for vascular surgery
- D. Repeat ultrasound scan in 12 months
- E. Request CT scan of abdomen

Correct Answer: D

67. A 28 year old woman has pain on swallowing. She has a history of asthma that is well controlled using metered dose salbutamol and beclometasone dipropionate (800 micrograms/day) inhalers.

She has white plaques in her mouth.

An anti-fungal oral suspension is prescribed.

What is the most appropriate management with regard to her beclometasone?

- A. Change beclometasone dipropionate to a dry powder formulation
- B. Change beclometasone dipropionate to fluticasone
- C. Change beclometasone dipropionate to salmeterol
- D. Take beclometasone dipropionate using a large volume spacer
- E. Take salbutamol and beclometasone dipropionate at least 1 h apart

Correct Answer: D

68. A 37 year old man has increasing fever and shortness of breath. He was admitted 3 days ago with left lower lobe pneumonia due penicillin-sensitive *Streptococcus pneumoniae*. He is receiving intravenous benzylpenicillin 1.2 g four times daily.

His temperature is 38.5°C, pulse 100 bpm and BP 122/80 mmHg.

Investigations:

Chest X-ray: left basal effusion.

Diagnostic pleural aspiration: Purulent fluid. Microscopy shows numerous polymorphs and Gram-positive cocci

Which is the most appropriate next step in management?

- A.** Catheter thoracostomy drainage
- B.** Increase dose of benzylpenicillin
- C.** Open thoracostomy
- D.** Switch benzylpenicillin to ceftriaxone
- E.** Switch benzylpenicillin to vancomycin

Correct Answer: A

69. A 52 year old man has 4 weeks of joint pain, fever and weight loss. He is a non-smoker and has no significant medical history.

Examination is unremarkable.

Investigations:

Calcium 3.12 mmol/L (2.2–2.6)

Plasma parathyroid hormone <0.5 pmol/L (0.9–5.4)

Chest X-ray shows perihilar lymphadenopathy.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Granulomatosis with polyangiitis
- B. Hodgkin's lymphoma
- C. Primary hyperparathyroidism
- D. Sarcoidosis
- E. Tuberculosis

Correct Answer: D

70. A 56 year old man has had a single episode of painless visible haematuria. He has no other urinary symptoms and is otherwise fit and well. He has smoked ten cigarettes per day for the past 35 years.

He has a BP of 140/85 mmHg. Urinalysis performed after this episode shows blood 2+, no protein and no nitrites.

Investigations:

Urea 6.5 mmol/L (2.5–7.8)

Creatinine 95 μ mol/L (60–120)

Urine culture: no growth

Which investigation is most likely to confirm the diagnosis?

- A. Flexible cystoscopy
- B. Serum prostate specific antigen
- C. Transrectal ultrasound scan of prostate
- D. Ultrasound scan of kidneys
- E. Urine cytology

Correct Answer: A

71. The daughter of a 78 year old man is concerned about an area of redness on her father's back. He lives alone and spends most of his day sitting in a chair.

There is a reddened area over the sacrum, but his skin is intact.

He is considered to be at risk of pressure ulcers.

Which member of the community multidisciplinary team would be most suited to conduct an initial assessment?

- A. Dietician
- B. District nurse
- C. Occupational therapist
- D. Physiotherapist
- E. Tissue viability nurse

Correct Answer: B

72. A junior doctor sustains a needle-stick injury while inserting a venous cannula into a 28 year old man. The patient has a history of intravenous drug use.

Which is the most important first action?

- A.** Encourage bleeding from the wound
- B.** Make an appointment with occupational health
- C.** Seek post-exposure prophylaxis
- D.** Test the patient for HIV
- E.** Wash the wound with alcohol

Correct Answer: A

73. A 32 year old woman has 3 weeks of fever, rigors and lethargy. In the past week, she has also become breathless on exertion. She is an intravenous drug user.

Her temperature is 38°C, pulse rate 100 bpm regular, and BP 100/60 mmHg. Her JVP is raised with predominant V waves. There is a pansystolic murmur at the left sternal edge on inspiration. She has reduced air entry with dullness to percussion at the right lung base. She has swelling of both ankles.

Which is the most likely pathogen?

- A. *Enterococcus faecalis*
- B. *Staphylococcus aureus*
- C. *Staphylococcus epidermidis*
- D. *Streptococcus bovis* / *streptococcus equinus* complex
- E. *Streptococcus viridans*

Correct Answer: B

- 74.** A 34 year old woman has sudden onset of right arm weakness and inability to speak. She has a history of migraine and generalised joint pains. Four years ago, she had a deep vein thrombosis in her right leg.

Her pulse rate is 68 bpm and BP 178/94 mmHg. She has an expressive dysphasia. She has flaccid weakness of her right arm and facial droop on the right lower half of her face.

Investigations:

Haemoglobin 118 g/L (115–150)

White cell count $4.3 \times 10^9/L$ (3.8–10.0)

Neutrophils $2.1 \times 10^9/L$ (2.0–7.5)

Lymphocytes $0.6 \times 10^9/L$ (1.1–3.3)

Platelets $132 \times 10^9/L$ (150–400)

Total cholesterol 4.6 mmol/L (<5.0)

CT scan of head left frontoparietal infarct

Which additional investigation is most likely to reveal the underlying cause of her stroke?

- A.** Anti-dsDNA antibody
- B.** Anticardiolipin antibody
- C.** Anti-Ro antibody
- D.** Rheumatoid factor
- E.** Serum immunoglobulins

Correct Answer: B

75. A 55 year old woman has been feeling tired and sleepy. Her partner says that she snores heavily. She has a history of type 2 diabetes mellitus and takes metformin.

Her BMI is 38 kg/m². Her oxygen saturation is 95% breathing air. Her Epworth sleepiness score is 19 (normal <11). Her HbA_{1c} is 60 mmol/mol (20-42).

Which treatment is most likely to improve her daytime somnolence?

- A. Bariatric surgery
- B. Continuous positive airway pressure ventilation
- C. Long acting insulin
- D. Mandibular advancement device
- E. Modafinil

Correct Answer: B

76. A 72 year old man has had six months of increased frequency of defaecation and three months of dark red rectal bleeding mixed with the stool.

Investigations:

Haemoglobin 101 g/L (130–175)

Mean cell haemoglobin (MCH) 24 pg (27–33)

MCV 73 fL (80–96)

White cell count $9.1 \times 10^9/L$ (3.0–10.0)

Platelets $354 \times 10^9/L$ (150–400)

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A.** Colonic carcinoma
- B.** Diverticular disease
- C.** Haemorrhoids
- D.** Ischaemic colitis
- E.** Ulcerative colitis

Correct Answer: A

77. A 24 year old man is reviewed following a recent orchidectomy. The pathologist's report describes a mass with cystic spaces. Histological examination shows areas of mature cartilage and columnar epithelium.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Chondrosarcoma
- B. Hamartoma
- C. Lymphoma
- D. Seminoma
- E. Teratoma

Correct Answer: E

78. A 50 year old man has had increasing breathlessness when climbing the stairs. There is no chest pain, wheeze or cough. He has COPD. He takes a salbutamol inhaler several times per day. He is an ex-smoker of 3 months and has a 30 pack-year smoking history. His weight is stable and he is otherwise well.

Investigation:
FEV₁ : 75% predicted

Which is the most appropriate next step in pharmacological management?

- A.** Inhaled beclometasone
- B.** Inhaled tiotropium and salmeterol
- C.** Nebulised salbutamol and ipratropium bromide
- D.** Oral prednisolone
- E.** Oral theophylline

Correct Answer: B

79. An 86 year old woman has had three falls in the past 3 months. On each occasion, she describes feeling lightheaded and dizzy prior to falling. She is taking alendronic acid, amlodipine, atorvastatin, metformin and zolpidem tartrate. Her BP is 132/80 mmHg sitting and 138/84 mmHg standing.

Which medication is most likely to be contributing to her falls?

- A. Alendronic acid
- B. Amlodipine
- C. Atorvastatin
- D. Metformin
- E. Zolpidem tartrate

Correct Answer: E

80. A 81 year old man has three months of malaise, bleeding gums and pain in his legs. He has been struggling to look after himself since his wife died one year ago. He has a poor diet and reports that he mostly has tea and toast.

He has gingival hypertrophy and skin petechiae.

Which micronutrient deficiency is he most likely to have?

- A. Magnesium
- B. Vitamin A
- C. Vitamin B₁
- D. Vitamin C
- E. Zinc

Correct Answer: D

81. A 45 year old man has had 6 months of tiredness, reduced libido and erectile dysfunction.

Investigations:

Testosterone 1.8 nmol/L (9.9–27.8)

LH 1.2 U/L (1–8)

FSH 1.0 U/L (1–12)

Which is the most likely cause of his presentation?

- A. Anabolic steroid misuse
- B. Androgen insensitivity syndrome
- C. Congenital adrenal hyperplasia
- D. Klinefelter's syndrome
- E. Pituitary adenoma

Correct Answer: E

82. A 24 year old man is admitted to hospital with an exacerbation of asthma. His symptoms improve with treatment, and he is ready for discharge after 24 hours. His discharge medication includes a salbutamol inhaler, a combined beclometasone and salmeterol inhaler, and a short course of oral prednisolone.

Which further management must be provided prior to discharge?

- A. Antibiotic rescue pack
- B. Course of antihistamines
- C. Nebuliser machine for use at home
- D. Personalised asthma action plan
- E. Volumatic spacer device

Correct Answer: D

83. A 40 year old man develops sudden breathlessness 5 days after an acute inferior ST-elevation myocardial infarction treated by primary coronary intervention.

His pulse rate is 110 bpm, BP 110/75 mmHg, respiratory rate 22 breaths per minute and oxygen saturation 92% on breathing 28% oxygen. There is a pansystolic murmur at the apex and bibasal inspiratory crackles.

Which is the most likely cause of this presentation?

- A. Acute pulmonary embolus
- B. Aortic regurgitation
- C. Cardiac tamponade
- D. Papillary muscle rupture
- E. Pericarditis

Correct Answer: D

84. A 48 year old man presents to his doctor with headaches. He has noticed that his hands have become larger, and his facial features have coarsened. More recently, his vision has deteriorated. He has an upper temporal defect in both visual fields.

Damage to which structure is the most likely source of his visual problems?

- A. Lateral geniculate body
- B. Occipital cortex
- C. Oculomotor nerve
- D. Optic chiasm
- E. Optic radiation

Correct Answer: D

85. A 42 year old man has a rash on his face, mainly around his chin. The rash started 24 hours ago with a 0.5 cm thin-walled blister that then ruptured, leaving a yellow crusted lesion that has since enlarged and now other similar lesions are appearing in the same area. He is a primary school teacher.

Which is the most likely causative organism?

- A. *Escherichia coli*
- B. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
- C. *Staphylococcus aureus*
- D. *Streptococcus pyogenes*
- E. *Varicella zoster virus*

Correct Answer: C

86. A 48 year old woman has had 3 years of increasing knee pain and reduced physical activity. She has radiologically-confirmed osteoarthritis. She has hypertension and type 2 diabetes. She takes lisinopril, metformin, semaglutide and simvastatin. Her BMI is 48 kg/m² and has not changed despite lifestyle advice and a low calorie diet for the last year.

Investigations:

Glycated haemoglobin 55 mmol/mol (20-42)

Which is the most appropriate management?

- A.** Intensify lifestyle measures and review in 6 months
- B.** Prescribe orlistat
- C.** Refer for bariatric surgery
- D.** Refer for bilateral knee replacements
- E.** Start insulin therapy

Correct Answer: C

87. A 22 year old soldier steps off a cramped military aircraft following a long flight from the United Kingdom. She suddenly collapses and hits her head on the ground. While unconscious, she has asynchronous jerking of her limbs for less than 15 seconds. Witnesses say that she looked pale. She regains consciousness within 1 minute.

What is the most likely cause of her collapse?

- A. Cardiac arrhythmia
- B. Epilepsy
- C. Hypoglycaemia
- D. Pulmonary embolism
- E. Vasovagal syncope

Correct Answer: E

88. A 60 year old man has had malaise and weight loss for 3 months and during the past week has been coughing up blood.

Investigation:

Chest X-ray: left upper zone consolidation with cavitation

Which is the most appropriate next diagnostic investigation?

- A. Bronchoscopy and lavage
- B. Interferon- γ release assay (IGRA)
- C. Mantoux test
- D. Sputum cytology
- E. Sputum microscopy

Correct Answer: E

89. A 55 year old man is referred to the vascular outpatient clinic with bilateral claudication, limiting his walking distance to 10 metres. He is a smoker.

Imaging shows chronic distal aortic and bilateral common iliac occlusive disease.

Which is the most appropriate surgical intervention?

- A. Aortic endarterectomy
- B. Aorto-bifemoral bypass graft
- C. Aorto-iliac embolectomy
- D. Bilateral iliac angioplasty
- E. Femoral-to-femoral crossover graft

Correct Answer: B

90. A 65 year old man sees his GP for monitoring of hypertension and ischaemic heart disease. His medication includes aspirin, atenolol, amlodipine, lisinopril and simvastatin.

He has marked ankle swelling.

Which drug is the most likely cause of his ankle swelling?

- A. Amlodipine
- B. Aspirin
- C. Atenolol
- D. Lisinopril
- E. Simvastatin

Correct Answer: A

91. An 85 year old woman was admitted with a stroke three weeks ago. She has a history of urinary incontinence and has a long-term urinary catheter in place. Her current medication includes clopidogrel and ramipril.

Her temperature is 36.8°C, pulse rate 85 bpm and BP 134/74 mmHg. A catheter specimen of urine shows $>10^5$ CFU/mL, mixed growth.

Which is the most appropriate management?

- A. No change in treatment
- B. Remove urinary catheter
- C. Request antibiotic sensitivities
- D. Start oral ciprofloxacin
- E. Start oral trimethoprim

Correct Answer: A

92. A 28 year old man has a headache, intermittent fever, sore throat and diarrhoea.

His temperature is 37.7°C. His fauces are red and there are two small aphthous ulcers on his left buccal mucosa. He also has a maculopapular erythematous rash on his upper trunk, red hands and folliculitis on his chest. His liver and spleen are just palpable and he has mild neck stiffness.

Investigations:

Haemoglobin 135 g/L (130–175)

White cell count $3.3 \times 10^9/L$ (3.0–10.0)

Platelets $84 \times 10^9/L$ (150–400)

Which investigation is most likely to lead to a diagnosis?

- A. First catch urine microscopy
- B. Glandular fever screening test
- C. HIV serology
- D. Serum antinuclear antibodies
- E. Serum toxoplasma gondii IgM antibody titre

Correct Answer: C

93. A 79 year old woman has six months of increasing breathlessness on exertion.

Her pulse rate is 72 bpm, irregularly irregular, and BP 118/72 mmHg. She has a diastolic murmur best heard at the apex in expiration.

Which is the most likely cause of her murmur?

- A. Aortic regurgitation
- B. Aortic stenosis
- C. Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
- D. Mitral regurgitation
- E. Mitral stenosis

Correct Answer: E

94. A 78 year old woman is found dead at home. At autopsy, the pathologist finds bilateral pneumonia and meningitis. Microscopy of a meningeal swab shows Gram-positive cocci arranged in pairs.

Which is the most likely causative organism?

- A. *Candida albicans*
- B. *Neisseria meningitidis*
- C. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
- D. *Staphylococcus aureus*
- E. *Streptococcus pneumoniae*

Correct Answer: E

95. A 40 year old man was admitted to hospital with central crushing chest pain.

Examination revealed pale cream coloured nodules on both elbows and medial aspects of his upper eyelids.

ECG on admission showed ST elevation and T wave inversion.

He deteriorated and died.

A post mortem examination is performed and shows very severe narrowing of the anterior descending branch of the left coronary artery.

Which is the most likely causative mechanism?

- A.** Atheroma
- B.** Arterial dissection
- C.** Malignant deposit
- D.** Thrombosis
- E.** Vasculitis

Correct Answer: A

- 96.** A 55 year old man visits his GP concerned that he may be a carrier of cystic fibrosis, a condition that has just been diagnosed in his 5 year old grandson. He has heard that this is an inherited condition, but no one else in his family has the illness.

What is the likelihood that the grandfather is a carrier?

- A.** 1 in 2
- B.** 1 in 4
- C.** 1 in 8
- D.** 1 in 16
- E.** 1 in 25

Correct Answer: A

97. A 79 year old woman has been repeatedly found wandering at night by her neighbours. The problem has progressively worsened over 6 months. She is independent in her activities of daily living, although her family do her shopping. She was previously well.

What aspect of cognition is likely to show the greatest impairment?

- A. Attention
- B. Concentration
- C. Praxis
- D. Registration of information
- E. Short-term memory

Correct Answer: E

98. A 52 year old woman reports increased urinary frequency, urgency and urge incontinence. She has multiple sclerosis, which affects her walking. A midstream urine sample shows no cells and is sterile on culture. A bladder scan shows a residual volume of 300 mL. Urodynamic assessment shows that she has a neuropathic bladder.

Which is the most appropriate management?

- A. α -Adrenoceptor blocker
- B. Anticholinergic drug
- C. Indwelling urethral catheter
- D. Intermittent self catheterisation
- E. Suprapubic catheter

Correct Answer: D

- 99.** A 43 year old woman is admitted with acute right upper quadrant pain, which radiates to her right shoulder.

Her temperature is 38.6°C and respiratory rate 20 breaths per minute. She is tender to palpation in the right upper quadrant but has no rebound tenderness.

Investigations:

Haemoglobin 132 g/L (115–150)

White cell count $13 \times 10^9/L$ (3.8–10.0)

Platelets $340 \times 10^9/L$ (150–400)

Bilirubin 30 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ (<17)

Alanine aminotransferase (ALT) 80 IU/L (10–50)

Alkaline phosphatase 306 IU/L (25–115)

Which is the next most appropriate radiological test?

- A. Abdominal X-ray
- B. CT scan of abdomen
- C. Erect chest X-ray
- D. MR scan of abdomen
- E. Ultrasound scan of abdomen

Correct Answer: E

100. An 84 year old man develops profuse diarrhoea whilst in hospital. An outbreak of *Clostridioides* (*Clostridium*) *difficile* has occurred in his ward.

Which feature of this organism makes it particularly difficult to destroy?

- A. Motility
- B. Outer capsule
- C. Rapid mutation
- D. Spore formation
- E. Surface adherence

Correct Answer: D