



**The Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists
Final Fellowship Examination in Pain Medicine**

Written Examination

Paper Two (Optional Questions)

25 May 2018 (Friday)

11:00 – 12:30 hrs

Instructions:

- I. This Question Paper carries a total of nine short answer questions.
- II. Please answer **SIX** questions and they carry equal marks.
- III. Please write your answer for each question in the appropriate “Pre-labelled” Answer Book
- IV. Record your candidate number and question number on each answer book.
- V. Use ink or ball-point pen.

Optional Questions (choose 6 out of 9 questions)

1. Biological markers of back pain representing potential pathology are described as ‘Red Flags’. Psychosocial aspects of back pain are also described in terms of ‘Flags’. Describe the system of Flags developed for assessing the different components of back pain.
2. What are the complications and side effects of epidural steroid injection for management of radicular pain ?
3. Exercise is known to reduce intensity of chronic pain. Please describe the mechanisms of this mode of therapy.
4. List the appropriate Non surgical treatments (do not include nerve blocks) you would use for patient with chronic osteoarthritic right knee pain without comorbidities, no other joints involved. State the effectiveness.
Would you use opioids in this setting? Explain.
5. A 76 year old man had decompressive surgery for spinal stenosis involving the lumbar spine 6 months ago. He complains of severe pain over left lower thigh and knee area since the operation.
 - a) How would you assess this patient?
 - b) What are the differential diagnosis?
 - c) Discuss management option for this patient.
6. List the drugs that can be administered intrathecally for chronic cancer or non-cancer pain management. Discuss the mechanism(s) of action and indication(s) for each drug.
7. Please give a brief outline of pharmacology of ketamine including its adverse effects. What are the applications of ketamine in acute pain management?

8. You are invited to write an article on a magazine of LGBTI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex communities) to educate their readers on HIV/AIDS and pain management.
Please outline your passage.
9. You are newly employed pain consultant in a children's hospital. You are invited to give a talk to the surgical ward staff on persistent postsurgical pain in children. Please outline your speech.

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