



The Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists

Diploma in Pain Management Examination

Paper One (Short Questions)

21 September 2001 (Friday)

09:00 h. – 10:00 h.

Instructions:

1. There are eight short answer questions.
2. Please answer **six** questions only and they carry equal marks.
3. Please write your answer for each question in a separate answer book and label them appropriately.
4. Record your candidate number and question number on each answer book.

- Q1 A patient who was on 40 mg of methadone per day for cancer pain management develops intestinal obstruction requiring laparotomy. How will you manage his pain post-operatively?
- Q2 List briefly the indications for the use of corticosteroids in symptom management in cancer patients and comment on the potential side effects.
- Q3 A systemic review of clinical trials of morphine establishes the number needed to treat (NNT) is 2.5. Explain the concept of NNT in this context.
- Q4 Define allodynia. Discuss some of the proposed mechanisms for this phenomenon.
- Q5 Pain is a placebo responsive condition. Describe your understanding of this statement.
- Q6 List the treatment options for a young man with discogenic back pain. Briefly discuss the merits of each treatment modality.
- Q7 What are the advantages and disadvantages of Gabapentin compared with the older anti-convulsants in treatment of neuropathic pain?
- Q8 Briefly discuss the features that would point to a significant degree of depression in a patient with chronic pain. Comment on one instrument that would confirm your diagnosis.

End