

The Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists

Diploma in Pain Management Examination

Paper TWO

Saturday, 3 October 1998, 11:00 h. – 12:00 h.

Instructions:

1. There are three clinical scenarios; each scenario has three related short questions.
2. Please **answer** questions from **two scenario only**.
3. There should be a total of six short questions answered and they carry equal marks.
4. Please write your answer for each scenario in appropriately labeled answer books.
5. Record your candidate number and question number on each answer book.

Scenario 1:

A 60 year old lady who has been suffering from right sided facial pain for one year is referred to you by a general practitioner. He described in his referral letter that the facial pain was resistant to analgesics. The lady is now taking carbamazepine 200mg thrice daily for the facial pain without satisfactory relief.

- Q1 How would you establish a diagnosis of trigeminal neuralgia in this patient?
- Q2 What are the adverse effects of carbamazepine and what are the precautions you would take when treating patients with carbamazepine?
- Q3 Evaluate the role of radiofrequency trigeminal gangliolysis in the management of this patient.

Scenario 2:

A 70-year-old man suffers from carcinoma of the prostate. He complained of severe back pain. You are consulted for pain management.

- Q1 Describe your initial assessment of this patient.
- Q2 This patient has been given oral dextropropoxyphene 64mg thrice daily for pain relief with very little effect. What would be your treatment plan for this patient?
- Q3 When would you consider spinal opioid for this patient? What are the possible complications?

Scenario 3:

An obese seventy-eight year old chronic smoker suffered from abdominal aortic aneurysm. He was scheduled for abdominal aneurysmorrhaphy. Preoperative ECG showed T wave inversion on all the chest leads. Chest X Ray showed emphysema and lung bullae. His preoperative coagulation tests were within normal range.

- Q1 What will be the adverse effects of postoperative pain on this patient's physiological function?
- Q2 Describe your plan for his postoperative pain management and justify your choice.
- Q3 What would be side effects and complications of your chosen analgesic technique?

End