



# The Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists

## Diploma in Pain Management Examination

### Paper TWO

Friday, 17 October 2003, 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 labelled answer books.
5. Record your candidate number and question number on each answer book.

#### **Scenario 1**

A 62 year old presents with low back pain of three months duration following a heavy lifting incident. He has right leg pain with radiation along L4 distribution. Two years ago he had a TURP for cancer of the prostate. His pain responds partially to Paracetamol and Codeine.

- Q1 Outline diagnostic measures you would take to clarify his diagnosis.
- Q2 Discuss the use of an epidural steroid injection in this patient.
- Q3 Describe your management plan if the pain is due to malignancy.

#### **Scenario 2**

A 45 year old intravenous drug addict is scheduled for laparotomy for suspected acute cholecystitis. He has been prescribed regular intramuscular pethidine by the surgeon but he is still complaining of severe pain. The operating theatre is busy and will not be able to operate on him for a few hours.

- Q1 Discuss the management of his pain pre-operatively.
- Q2 Discuss the benefits of multi-modal analgesia in the postoperative pain management of this patient.
- Q3 This patient was given intravenous morphine by patient controlled analgesia (PCA) post-operatively. Daily morphine consumption has increased to 150 mg on Day 5 and he is reluctant to give up the PCA. Outline your management.

### **Scenario 3**

A 34 year old male is referred with pain, following a gun shot in an assault 12 months previously. He sustained a partial spinal cord lesion at T8 and has incomplete paraplegia. He complains of right leg and abdominal pain.

- Q1 Outline your initial assessment of this patient.
- Q2 Explain the potential psychosocial impacts of his illness.
- Q3 Outline possible invasive procedures that may benefit this patient.

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