



The Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists

Diploma in Pain Management Examination

Paper TWO

Friday, 04 November 2005, 11:00 h. – 12:00 h.

Instructions:

- I. There are three clinical scenarios; each scenario has three related short questions.
- II. Please **answer** questions from **two scenarios only**.
- III. There should be a total of six short questions answered and they carry equal marks.
- IV. Please write your answer for each scenario in appropriately labelled answer books.
- V. Record your candidate number and question number on each answer book.

Scenario A

A patient who had an inguinal hernia operation 6 months previously developed persistent inguinal pain.

- Q1. Outline the possible causes of this persistent pain.
- Q2. Patient complained of burning pain, allodynia and dysaesthesia. Discuss the mechanism of this type of pain.
- Q3. Outline your management of this patient.

Scenario B

A 40-year-old diabetic man suffers from painful peripheral neuropathy. His pain is not responsive to anti-depressants, anti-convulsants and anti-inflammatory agents. He is so upset that he would rather die than suffer from the pain.

- Q1. How would you assess his suicidal risk?
- Q2. Outline your management of this patient.
- Q3. What are the considerations in prescribing opioid for his pain?

Scenario C

A 68 years old patient suffers from cancer of the prostate. He complained of severe lower back pain and left shoulder pain. He was given hormonal therapy by the urologist. The oncologist gave palliative radiotherapy to the affected area and 3 doses of intravenous bisphosphonate. Oral analgesic was recently changed to Doloxene Co (Dextropropoxyphene and aspirin) one week previously. He reported some pain relief but was troubled by nausea and vomiting in the past week. Drug compliance was poor.

- Q1. What are the important psychological issues?
- Q2. How would you manage this patient at this stage?
- Q3. Discuss the role of interventional pain treatment in this patient.