



The Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists

Diploma in Pain Management Examination

Paper Two (Scenarios)

21 October 2011 (Friday)

11:00 – 12:00

Instructions:

- I. There are TWO clinical scenarios; each scenario has three related short questions.
- II. Please **answer ALL questions**
- III. Please write your answer for each scenario in appropriately labelled answer books.
- IV. Record your candidate number and question number on each answer book.

Scenario A

A 45 year old (70 kg) auto mechanic is on your acute pain service (APS) round the day after a total colectomy and ileostomy for Crohn's disease. He is 'Hepatitis C+'.

Prior to surgery he was prescribed morphine modified (sustained) release (MST) 100 mg twice daily for chronic low back pain. He takes sertraline 150 mg per day and alprazolam 2 mg twice daily for panic disorder. He smokes 60 cigarettes and consumes 6 standard drinks of alcohol per day. He refuses epidural analgesia.

1. Outline your approach to his peri-operative pain management?

You are called to review the patient 36 hours post-surgery as he is reporting '10/10' pain. He is 'restless' with an irregular pulse of 120 beats per minute.

2. How would you manage this situation?

The patient is now 5 days post-surgery and allowed free fluids. He is still using 120 mg intravenous morphine per day via patient-controlled analgesia (PCA).

3. Describe how would you 'step-down' from PCA, including the 'doses' of analgesics you would prescribe? What would you arrange for pain management following discharge from hospital?

Scenario B

A 40-year-old lady was diagnosed with osteoarthritis by her family doctor. She has been taking over-the-counter pain-killers for years. She consults you to advise on her medications as she is now pregnant for 2 months.

4. What advice would you give her on the use of analgesics during pregnancy and lactation?
5. Give a brief account of symptomatic treatment for osteoarthritis.
6. The patient is concerned about passing on her pain problem to her baby. How would you address this?

End