

Sample MCQs for Part I Examination

Ear pain

1. A 15-year-old child presents with severe pain and deafness in his left ear for two days. He is afebrile. There are haemorrhagic blisters on the tympanic membrane extending along the external auditory canal.

Which is the SINGLE MOST likely diagnosis? Select ONE option only.

- A Acute otitis media
- B Eczematous otitis externa
- C Herpes simplex
- D Otitis externa
- E Varicella

Vaginal discharge

2. A 20-year-old unmarried woman presents complaining of severe dysuria, fever, a vaginal discharge and vulval soreness. She had casual sexual intercourse two weeks ago. You find a profuse discharge with redness of the vulva.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate investigation? Select ONE option only.

- A Direct microscopy of vaginal discharge for yeasts
- B Gram stain of vaginal discharge
- C Potassium hydroxide test for bacterial vaginosis
- D Urine microscopy
- E VDRL test

Osteoporosis

3. A 50-year-old woman had an early menopause following treatment for breast cancer. A bone density scan has revealed moderate osteoporosis.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate treatment? Select ONE option only.

- A Biphosphonates
- B Biphosphonates with calcium and vitamin D supplements
- C Calcium and vitamin D supplements
- D Calcium supplements
- E Combined hormone replacement therapy

Infections

4. A 12-year-old girl presents with high fever, vomiting, malaise, headache and photophobia for 24 hours. Her temperature is 39.6 °C with irritability, neck stiffness, a positive Kernig's sign and generalised petichiae.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate drug to administer parenterally before admission to hospital? Select ONE option only.

- A Benzyl penicillin
- B Chloramphenicol
- C Ciprofloxacin
- D Gentamycin
- E Hydrocortisone

Management of cardiac arrhythmias

5. A 50-year-old asymptomatic man attends for a routine health examination. The ECG reveals lone atrial fibrillation with a rate of 74/min. All other investigations are normal.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate treatment? Select ONE option only.

- A Amiodarone
- B Aspirin
- C Digoxin
- D Verapamil
- E Warfarin

Antenatal care

6. A 38-year-old woman attends for antenatal booking at 15 weeks gestation. This is her first pregnancy. She requests the most reliable prenatal test for Down's syndrome.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate test? Select ONE option only.

- A Amniocentesis & chromosome analysis
- B Chorionic villous biopsy
- C Serum alpha fetoprotein
- D Ultrasound for nuchal fold thickness
- E Urine β human chorionic gonadotrophin (β HCG)

Management of depression

7. A 34-year-old woman presents with fatigue, insomnia, and low mood for four weeks. She denies serious suicidal intent.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate treatment? Select ONE option only.

- A Doxepin
- B Fluoxetine
- C Moclobemide
- D Temazepam
- E Zopiclone

Chest problems

8. A 50-year-old man with known COPD has a persistent cough, haemoptysis and weight loss for eight weeks. His chest X-ray shows shadowing in the right upper zone

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate diagnostic investigation? Select ONE option only.

- A Bronchoscopy
- B Chest CT scan
- C Sputum for acid fast bacilli
- D Sputum for culture and sensitivities
- E Ventilation perfusion scan

Palliative care

9. A 60-year-old woman with carcinoma of the breast and widespread lung secondaries has a troublesome cough which is keeping her awake at night.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate medication to prescribe? Select ONE option only.

- A Codeine
- B Morphine
- C Oxygen
- D Salbutamol
- E Theophylline

Skin rash

10. A 45-year-old man presents with a pustular eruption on his cheeks, nose and forehead and blepharitis.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate treatment? Select ONE option only.

- A Oral amoxicillin
- B Oral oxytetracycline
- C Topical benzoyl peroxide
- D Topical erythromycin
- E Topical steroids

Facial weakness

11. A 40-year-old woman complains of incomplete right-sided facial weakness and difficulty with closing her right eye for five days. This was preceded by pain around the ear.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate treatment? Select ONE option only.

- A Aciclovir
- B Aspirin
- C Carbamazepine
- D Conservative treatment
- E Prednisolone

Prescribing in pregnancy

12. A 30-year-old woman, who is eight weeks pregnant, presents with symptoms of severe depression. She is very anxious and finding it difficult to cope.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate treatment? Select ONE option only.

- A Amitriptyline
- B Diazepam
- C Fluoxetine
- D Trazadone
- E Venlafaxine

Neonatal checks

13. A 3-week-old boy attends for a routine neonatal check up. He has a positive bilateral Ortolani manoeuvre test.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate next management step? Select ONE option only.

- A Advise use of triple diapers and reassess in two weeks
- B Arrange an ultrasound of both hip joints
- C Arrange an X-ray of both hip joints
- D Reassess in two weeks
- E Reassess in eight weeks

Chest pain

14. A 50-year-old man with diabetes and hypertension complains of central chest pain while walking this morning. The pain lasted 10 minutes, was relieved by rest and had not occurred before. Examination and resting ECG are normal.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate next investigation? Select ONE option only.

- A Chest X-ray
- B Echocardiogram
- C Exercise electrocardiogram (treadmill) test
- D Repeat electrocardiogram in one week
- E Thallium scan

Odd behaviour

15. A 24-year-old man attends with his wife who reports episodes of bizarre behaviour. He complains of an unpleasant smell and feeling nauseous. He then appears to lose awareness for a minute. He stares, lifts his right arm above his head, and makes chewing movements.

Which is the SINGLE MOST likely diagnosis? Select ONE option only.

- A Absence seizures
- B Hysteria
- C Partial complex seizures
- D Psychotic depression
- E Temporal lobe epilepsy

Abdominal pain

16. A 50-year-old man presents with severe pain in his left upper abdomen and back for five days with a high fever and rigors. His temperature is 38.5 °C and he is tender in the left loin. Urine dipstick is positive for protein, blood, leucocytes and nitrites.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate treatment? Select ONE option only.

- A Cefalexin
- B Ciprofloxacin
- C Erythromycin
- D Oxytetracycline
- E Trimethoprim

Sleep disturbance

17. A 55-year-old woman with hypertension and ischaemic heart disease complains of disturbed sleep for the past three months. Her blood pressure is well controlled. She takes the drugs listed below.

Which is the SINGLE MOST likely drug to cause her symptoms? Select ONE option only.

- A Amlodipine
- B Aspirin
- C Atenolol
- D Indapamide
- E Simvastatin

Diarrhoea

18. A 16-year-old boy presents with abdominal discomfort, tenesmus and severe bloody slimy diarrhoea for two days after returning ten days ago from a rural village. He is afebrile and there is no significant clinical abnormality.

Which is the SINGLE MOST LIKELY diagnosis? Select ONE option only.

- A Amoebic dysentery
- B Campylobacter
- C Rotavirus
- D Salmonella food poisoning
- E Shigellosis

Skin rash

19. A 10-year-old girl presents with a one-week history of a rash on her trunk. It began as a single pink scaly well circumscribed area and spread to cover her trunk. There are multiple pink, oval scaling lesions which follow the lines of cleavage of the skin and are itchy.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate management option? Select ONE option only.

- A Advise that it is a self limiting condition
- B Prescribe oral terbinafine
- C Prescribe oral tetracycline
- D Prescribe topical hydrocortisone
- E Prescribe topical miconazole

Palliative care

20. A 65-year-old man with carcinoma of the prostate is in severe pain from multiple bone metastases. He was started on oral morphine two days ago and has developed severe bouts of nausea with vomiting.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate treatment ? Select ONE option only.

- A Domperidone
- B Haloperidol
- C Metoclopramide
- D Prochlorperazine
- E Promethazine

Investigation of chest symptoms

21. A 30-year-old man complains of hoarseness, cough, low grade fever, anorexia and weight loss for six weeks. He has bronchial breathing and crepitations at the right apex.

According to WHO guidelines which is the SINGLE BEST diagnostic investigation? Select ONE option only.

- A Chest X-ray
- B Laryngoscopy
- C Sputum for acid fast bacilli
- D Sputum for cytology
- E Tuberculin skin test

Infectious diseases

22. A 20-year-old man has had continuous fever, chills, dry cough, headache and myalgia for six days. His temperature is 39.4°C . Investigation reveals a leucocyte count of $12,000\text{ mm}^3$.

Which of the following is the SINGLE MOST likely diagnosis? Select ONE option only.

- A Dengue fever
- B Liver abscess
- C Malaria
- D Typhoid fever
- E Viral hepatitis

Abdominal pain

- 23 A 25-year-old man has had severe pain in his right loin for four hours. He is afebrile. Urine dipstick testing shows blood only.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate diagnostic investigation? Select ONE option only.

- A Abdominal ultrasound
- B Intravenous pyelogram
- C Plain abdominal X-ray (KUB)
- D Retrograde pyelogram
- E Spiral CT abdominal scan

24. A 40-year-old woman complains of incomplete right-sided facial weakness and difficulty with closing her right eye for five days. This was preceded by pain around the ear.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate treatment? Select ONE option only.

- A Aciclovir
- B Aspirin
- C Carbamazepine
- D Conservative treatment
- E Prednisolone

Chest problems

25. A 50-year-old man with known COPD has a persistent cough, haemoptysis and weight loss for eight weeks. His chest X-ray shows shadowing in the right upper zone

Which is the SINGLE MOST diagnostically useful investigation? Select ONE option only.

- A Bronchoscopy
- B Chest CT scan
- C Sputum for acid fast bacilli
- D Sputum for culture and sensitivities
- E Ventilation perfusion scan

Neonatal Jaundice

26. A newly born full term baby has developed jaundice within 24 hours of birth.

Which is the SINGLE MOST likely diagnosis? Select ONE option only.

- A Congenital rubella syndrome
- B Cytomegalic inclusion disease
- C Rhesus isoimmunisation
- D Septicaemia
- E Toxoplasmosis

Neurological symptoms

27. A 58-year-old man developed sudden weakness of his right arm and slurred speech two days ago. His symptoms resolved completely within four hours. His blood pressure is 160 / 105 mm Hg.

Which is the SINGLE MOST appropriate initial investigation? Select ONE option only.

- A Carotid angiography
- B Carotid ultrasound
- C CT brain scan
- D Lumbar puncture
- E Skull X-ray

Haematology

28. A four-year-old girl has had bleeding gums and small pink spots on her lower extremities for two days. She had an upper respiratory infection one week ago. There are petechiae on her lower extremities.
Investigation shows:
Haemoglobin: 10.0 g/dl, WBC: $8 \times 10^9/L$, Platelets: $15 \times 10^9/L$.

Which is the SINGLE MOST likely diagnosis? Select ONE option only.

- A Acute idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura
- B Acute lymphocytic leukaemia
- C Haemophilia
- D Henoch-Schönlein purpura
- E von Willebrand's disease

Oral ulcers

29. A two-year-old boy has had painful oral ulcers with fever for two days. He has numerous erythematous ulcerative lesions on the buccal mucosa, gums and tongue.

Which is the SINGLE MOST likely diagnosis? Select ONE option only.

- A Aphthous ulcers
- B Candidiasis
- C Herpangina
- D Herpes simplex
- E Necrotising ulcerative gingivitis

Asthma

30. An 18-year-old man develops acute breathlessness and wheezing for the first time.

Which SINGLE peak flow value (PEFR) is the threshold indicator of acute severe asthma? Select ONE option only.

- A PEFR less than thirty percent predicted or best
- B PEFR less than forty percent predicted or best
- C PEFR less than fifty percent predicted or best
- D PEFR less than sixty percent predicted or best
- E PEFR less than seventy percent predicted or best