



## THE COLLEGES OF MEDICINE OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Examination for the Subspeciality in Clinical Haematology of the  
College of Pathologists of South Africa

28 February 2020



1 Paper only

(3 hours)

*All questions to be answered. Each question to be answered in a separate book (or books if more than one is required for the one answer)*

- 1 A 21-year-old woman presents with lower abdominal pain, petechiae and ecchymoses. An abdominal ultrasound reveals a ruptured ovarian cyst with fluid in the abdomen. A full blood count reveals a WBC count of  $9 \times 10^9/l$ , a haemoglobin of 5.6 g/dl and a platelet count of  $7 \times 10^9/l$ . You are consulted by the gynaecologist to assist with post-operative management.
  - a) Discuss your approach to this patient and how you would suggest managing this patient at this point in time. (15)  
Post-operatively, the patient develops a painful swelling of a calf, which is confirmed to be a deep vein thrombosis. She is anticoagulated with warfarin but develops sudden onset shortness of breath on day 10 of warfarin. Her INR is found to be 3.6 and her platelet count is  $65 \times 10^9/l$ . Her haemoglobin is 7.1 g/dl.
  - b) Discuss your approach and management at this point in time. (10)  
[25]
- 2
  - a) You are busy working up a 36-year-old male, who is HIV sero-negative, with newly diagnosed diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, germinal centre subtype.
    - i) Which factors would you look at to decide if you need to incorporate prophylaxis against central nervous system involvement in his treatment regimen? (4)
    - ii) If the patient does require prophylaxis, briefly discuss the options. (4)
  - b) Write short notes on emicizumab. (6)
  - c) Discuss the clinical features of Hereditary Haemorrhagic Telangiectasia. (6)
  - d) Write short notes on disorders of hepcidin regulation. (5)  
[25]
- 3
  - a) Tabulate the relevant investigations that you would perform in the following myeloproliferative neoplasms: Primary Myelofibrosis, Essential Thrombocythaemia and Polycythaemia Rubra Vera. Briefly discuss the treatment options in each of these 3 myeloproliferative neoplasms. (18)
  - b) Write short notes on Plasmablastic Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma. (7)  
[25]
- 4
  - a) List the respiratory manifestations of Sickle Cell Anaemia (SCA). Briefly discuss the treatment of Acute Chest Syndrome in SCA. (7)
  - b) Write short notes on the diagnosis of Haemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis. (5)
  - c) Discuss the laboratory assessment of minimal residual disease in Multiple Myeloma. (6)
  - d) Write short notes on Internal Quality Control in laboratory practice as a measure of Quality Assurance. (7)  
[25]