



Cert Gastroenterology(SA) Paed

THE COLLEGES OF MEDICINE OF SOUTH AFRICA

Incorporated Association not for gain
Reg No 1955/000003/08

Examination for the Subspeciality Certificate in Gastroenterology
of the College of Paediatricians of South Africa

27 July 2017

Paper 1

(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 answer)

Please note the meaning of the following terms:

- i) 'List' means to enumerate i.e. specify a list or an outline form of reply in concise form.
 - ii) 'Describe' means to answer in a brief narrative form.
 - iii) 'Discuss' means that you need to analyse carefully, and construct an answer that provides an overview of the various factors that may contribute to a particular problem or treatment - this type of question calls for a more complete response.
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Question 1

- a) Discuss the physiology of digestion and absorption of carbohydrates, proteins, lipids and fat soluble vitamins. In each of these groups (carbohydrates, proteins, lipids and fat soluble vitamins) include one example of a pathological entity where absorption or digestion is abnormal. (15)
 - b) Discuss special investigations to diagnose
 - i) Carbohydrate malabsorption. (3)
 - ii) Protein malabsorption. (2)
 - iii) Fat malabsorption and pancreatic exocrine function. (5)
- [25]

Question 2

An 11-year-old boy presents to the casualty unit with a history of having severe retrosternal discomfort after eating a sausage. He has required previous endoscopic intervention on two occasions.

- a) What differential diagnoses would you consider in this patient? (3)

He is known with asthma and allergies, but is taking no medication currently. In removing the food bolus you notice abnormal features in the oesophagus. Histology reveals features of eosinophilic oesophagitis.

- b) Briefly describe the pathophysiology of this condition. (5)

- c) What features would you find on the histopathology report? (5)
- d) What would your approach be to the immediate and long term management of this patient? (Specific dosages of therapy are not required) (5)

You explain the treatment options to the mother but she is worried about potential side effects/complications of the medication.

- e) Mention the possible side effects. Also mention what could be done to prevent some of them. (5)

Even after thorough counselling the parents decide not to take any treatment.

- f) Briefly mention the possible complications with untreated eosinophilic oesophagitis. (2)
[25]

Question 3

A 3-year-old girl presents to the emergency rooms with the history of swallowing a foreign body. The child was brought in immediately (20h00 in the evening).

- a) What factors would determine the indications for and timing of removal of the foreign object? (15)

A family member informs you that it was a button battery.

- b) Describe, by way of a diagram/algorithm, your approach and management of this patient, depending on the location of the battery. (10)
[25]

Question 4

A 10-year-old boy presents with bloody diarrhoea and jaundice.

Discuss the hepatobiliary disorders and complications associated with inflammatory bowel disease, and the management thereof. [25]

Total [100]



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Paper 2

(3 hours)

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Question 1

- a) Discuss the diagnostic challenges of coeliac disease with regard to
 - i) Serology and HLA genotyping. (5)
 - ii) Considerations when taking intestinal biopsies. (3)
 - iii) Novel markers of coeliac disease. (2)
- [10]

Question 2

Discuss the diagnosis and nutritional management of acute pancreatitis. [10]

Question 3

- a) Discuss the aetiology of ascites in neonates (congenital) and children. (4)
 - b) Discuss the gross appearance of the ascitic tap and the interpretation thereof. (2)
 - c) Discuss specific investigations on the ascitic tap and their interpretation (4)
- [10]

Question 4

Discuss the pathophysiology and treatment of porto-pulmonary syndrome and hepato-pulmonary syndrome. [10]

Question 5

With regard to Allagille syndrome, briefly discuss

- a) Hepatic clinical and histological manifestations. (2)
- b) Management of associated pruritis. (3)
- c) Clinical and molecular diagnosis. (3)
- d) Vascular manifestations. (2)

[10]

Question 6

Write short notes on hepatic and gastrointestinal manifestations of primary immunodeficiency diseases.

[10]

Question 7

Wireless capsule endoscopy is a bowel imaging modality used to visualise the gastro-intestinal mucosa. With regard to this modality, list

- a) Specific considerations in the paediatric population. (2)
- b) Indications. (3)
- c) Contra-indications. (2)
- d) Risks associated with the procedure which should be mentioned to parents as part of the informed consent. (3)

[10]

Question 8

Write short notes on

- a) Feeding disorders associated with Autism Spectrum Disorder. (5)
- b) Complementary feeding: timing, content and method of feeding. (5)

[10]

Question 9

With regard to oesophageal atresia and tracheoesophageal fistulae, write short notes on

- a) Embryological development and types. (3)
- b) Associated syndromes. (2)
- c) Long term morbidity associated with oesophageal atresia. (5)

[10]

Question 10

Discuss the diagnostic evaluation of a child with acute liver failure.

[10]

Total

[100]