



## 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

26 July 2018

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 ie 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

- 1 A 10-year-old boy presents with the incidental finding of hepatosplenomegaly. Clinically the liver has a hard consistency and you suspect that he has liver cirrhosis
  - a) List, in order of importance, the differential diagnosis for liver cirrhosis in this patient. (5)
  - b) What investigations may be useful to confirm the diagnosis of liver cirrhosis and portal hypertension? Specify what the expected findings would be for each investigation. Include invasive and non-invasive investigations. Include diagnostic modalities that would also be useful in the follow-up care of this patient. (10)
  - c) As part of your assessment, you perform a gastroscopy and note that there are oesophageal varices
    - i) How would you assess the risk for an imminent variceal haemorrhage? (3)
    - ii) What strategies could you use to prevent variceal haemorrhage? Discuss the benefits and complications of each strategy. (5)
  - d) The boy's parents would like to know if he can participate in sport. What would your recommendation be? (2)

[25]
  
- 2 A 6-week-old infant boy is admitted to your service with the complaint of diarrhoea that started in the first week of life. His birth weight was 3,2kg, present weight 2,7kg  
On examination his subcutaneous fat is reduced but he is not overtly dehydrated
  - a) Discuss the differential diagnosis of the diarrhoea in this infant and the features in the history and clinical examination that would be of importance for each diagnosis. (10)
  - b) The mother is unable to breastfeed. Discuss the options available for feeding (not parenteral) and the feeding techniques that you would consider. Discuss the benefits and disadvantages of each feeding formula and technique. (10)
  - c) The infant subsequently develops prominent perianal fissures. An adult gastroenterologist remarks that the lesions are similar to those seen in adults with perianal Crohn's disease. Discuss the differential diagnosis in this situation. (5)

[25]

3 Explain the pathophysiology and causes of malnutrition in children with cystic fibrosis and how you would manage these causes. [25]

4 A neonate presents in acute liver failure

- a) Define acute liver failure. (2)
- b) Why is this a difficult diagnosis in neonates? (1)
- c) List 5 causes for acute liver failure in a neonate. (5)
- d) Discuss the initial management of acute liver failure in this setting. (10)

As part of your investigations, a ferritin comes back as 5420ng/ml.

- e) What is the likely diagnosis? (1)
  - f) How would you confirm the diagnosis? (4)
  - g) How would you differentiate from other causes of iron overload? (2)
- [25]



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27 July 2018

Paper 2

(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:

- iv) 'List' means to enumerate ie specify a list or an outline form of reply in concise form.
- v) 'Describe' means to answer in a brief narrative form.
- vi) '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

- 1 Write short notes describing the treatment of Clostridium difficile treatment in children. Make specific reference to the treatment of the first episode, second episode and recurrent episodes of C difficile. [10]
- 2 Write short notes on the approach to the child with intractable constipation. [10]
- 3 Write short notes on the complications of anti-TNF biologic agents used in the treatment of Crohn's disease in children. [10]
- 4 Write short notes on the following
  - a) The gastrointestinal complications of Schwachman Diamond syndrome. (5)
  - b) Pancreatic divisum. (5)
 [10]
- 5 What are the indications for Percutaneous Gastrostomy insertion in children and the possible complications? [10]
- 6 Write short notes on
  - a) Veno-occlusive disease in paediatrics (5)
  - b) Explain the PELD score in paediatrics and list exceptions to the score (5)
 [10]
- 7 A 6-year-old girl presents with acute abdominal pain and has a serum lipase of 200 U/L
  - a) List 3 possible causes. (3)
  - b) What are the diagnostic criteria for acute pancreatitis? (3)
  - c) Discuss your management. (4)
 [10]

- 8 A 13-year-old boy presents with obesity and has an ALT 100 U/L and an AST 150U/L
- a) What is the most likely diagnosis? (2)
  - b) How would you confirm the diagnosis? (4)
  - c) What is the management and prognosis? (4)
- [10]
- 9 A 9-year-old girl presents with splenomegaly
- a) List 5 possible causes. (5)
  - b) Discuss the management of portal vein thrombosis. (5)
- [10]
- 10 Discuss the management of short bowel syndrome. [10]