



THE COLLEGES OF MEDICINE OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

Examination for the Subspeciality Certificate in Medical Oncology of the  
College of Paediatricians of South Africa

26 July 2018

Paper 1

(3 hours)

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

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- 1 You are starting up a new oncology unit; one of the elements of an oncology unit is the follow-up of patients to exclude the long-term side effects of childhood cancer survivors.. Discuss how you would go about this with regard to monitoring for long-term effects in children. [25]
- 2 An 8-year-old boy is referred from a peripheral hospital with a 3 day history of painful priapism. Clinically he is pre-pubertal, has mild pallor, generalised significant lymphadenopathy, a 3cm hepatomegaly and a massive splenomegaly extending into the right iliac fossa. His penis is swollen, tender, and erythematous and he has a urinary catheter in-situ. The full blood count reveals a white cell count of  $520 \times 10^9/l$ , haemoglobin of 8,7g/dl, MCV 90 fl, and platelets of  $288 \times 10^9/l$ , neutrophils 67%, monocytes 1%, lymphocytes 2%, eosinophils 2%, basophils 1%, metamyelocytes 2%, myelocytes 24%, and blasts 1%
- a) Discuss your emergency management of this patient, including the management of the presenting complaint. (5)
  - b) What is the most likely diagnosis? (2)
  - c) Discuss all the investigations you would perform to confirm the diagnosis and as a baseline to assess future treatment response. (5)
  - d) Discuss the definitive treatment options for the patient. (5)
  - e) How would you assess response to treatment? Discuss clinical and laboratory criteria used and time lines used to assess whether response to therapy is adequate. (8)
- [25]
- 3 An 8-year-old girl presents with headache, vomiting, drooping on one side of the face, trouble with swallowing and difficulty with walking. A CT scan of the brain reveals a large pontine glioma (DIPG)
- a) Discuss the prognosis and clinical course of this disease. (12)
  - b) Discuss your management of this malignancy, including the end-of-life management, and end-of-life scenarios for this patient (advanced care plan). (13)
- [25]

- 4 A 2-year-old girl, SM presents with a right-sided abdominal mass which the mother noted a week ago. On examination, SM is well-nourished and has pain below the right costal margin. On palpation of the abdomen, a right flank mass measuring 10cm. is palpated
- a) What is your differential diagnosis? (5)
  - b) How would you stage the patient and what are the patterns of spread of Nephroblastomas? (5)
  - c) Write notes on nephrogenic rests. (4)
  - d) Discuss the prognostic considerations of Nephroblastomas. (3)
  - e) Write short notes on genetic syndromes associated with Nephroblastomas. (5)
  - f) Discuss the role of radiotherapy (DXT) in the management of Nephroblastomas. (3)
- [25]



Cert Medical Oncology(SA) Paed

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Paper 2

(3 hours)

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- 1 A 6-year-old girl is referred to you with a one-day history of acute flaccid paralysis and urinary incontinence. Discuss your emergency evaluation and management. [10]
- 2 Briefly discuss the predictive value of PCT(procalcitonin) and IL-6 for bacterial infection in children with cancer and febrile neutropenia. [10]
- 3 Write notes on Transfusion reactions. [10]
- 4 Write notes on Irinotecan. [10]
- 5 Discuss the complications of chemotherapy induced nausea and vomiting and the pharmacological control of nausea and vomiting. [10]
- 6 Discuss the definition and diagnosis of central nervous system disease acute lymphoblastic leukemia. [10]
- 7 Write notes on the classification of Leukaemias of Ambiguous Lineage (biphenotypic).. [10]
- 8 Write notes on the genomic changes associated with Neuroblastoma. [10]
- 9 Discuss Second Malignant Neoplasms. [10]
- 10 Write notes on Retinoic Acid Differentiation Syndrome and its Management. [10]