



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

25 July 2019

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)

- 1 Nhlakanipho is a 9-year-old boy that was referred to you from a local hospital. He presents with a 2-month history of loss of weight, fatigue and cough. He is noted to have an ulcerating mass on the anterior chest wall and a chest x-ray reveals the presence of an anterior mediastinal mass. A biopsy of the chest wall mass is consistent with an anaplastic large cell lymphoma.
- a) Discuss the classification, tumour biology, clinical presentation and risk features of anaplastic large cell lymphoma. (13)
 - b) Discuss the management and prognosis of patients with anaplastic large cell lymphoma. (12)
- [25]
- 2 You admit a 6-year-old boy with shortness of breath, a WCC of $90 \times 10^9/L$, Hb of 5 g/dl and platelet count of $9 \times 10^9/L$
- a) What could be the possible causes of the shortness of breath? (5)
 - b) Describe your management of the patient during the first 24-hours of admission. (8)
 - c) Write short notes on the pathology and molecular diagnosis of Leukaemias. (5)
 - d) Write notes on the use of Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors in paediatric leukaemias. (7)
- [25]
- 3 A 6-year-old boy is referred to you with a right sided flank mass. The mass has been present for about 6-months
- a) What clinical features would you look for to ascertain the origin of the mass? (2)
 - b) If you think it is a renal area mass that may be malignant, what other clinical findings should you look for to establish a possible cause? (3)
 - c) Discuss the radiological findings on chest x-ray and abdominal x-ray that may help you decide the cause of this renal mass. (2)
 - d) The CT-scan shows a renal mass. What is your differential diagnosis for a renal tumour? (3)
 - e) What further investigations would you do to prove the diagnosis? (5)
 - f) The eventual diagnosis is that of a non-metastatic nephroblastoma. Discuss the further management and prognosis of this patient. (10)
- [25]

- 4 You have recently qualified as a Paediatric Oncologist and are approached by the head of Paediatrics at a tertiary level hospital in the Eastern Cape. This hospital does not yet have a Paediatric Oncology unit (POU), and all the Paediatric Oncology patients from their drainage area are sent to the nearest Paediatric Oncology unit (POU) 230km away. There is an established radiation oncology unit at this hospital. They now want to establish a POU and are approaching you to head up the POU
- a) Describe what infrastructure, departments and personnel you would need to start up a POU. (15)
 - b) Describe which patients/conditions you would start treating at the new POU. (10)
- [25]



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26 July 2019

Paper 2

(3 hours)

All questions are to be answered.

Please answer question 1 in one book.

- 1 Draw up a short SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) on the prevention of Central Venous Line infections in a paediatric oncology unit. [10]

Please answer questions 2 and 3 in one book.

- 2 Write short notes on the causes and management of fever in children with cancer. [10]
- 3 What is Castleman's disease, describe how it presents, and what virus has been causally associated with Castleman's disease? [10]

Please answer question 4 in one book.

- 4 Write short notes on fosaprepitant. [10]

Please answer question 5 in one book.

- 5 Describe how you will counsel the parents of a 6-year-old girl who has just been diagnosed with a DIPG, concentrating on treatment options and palliation. [10]

Please answer questions 6 and 7 in one book.

- 6 List the indications for allogenic stem cell transplant in Paediatric Oncology. [10]
- 7 Write short notes on levels of evidence as it pertains to evidence based medicine. [10]

Please answer question 8 in one book.

- 8 Discuss the features which may alert you to the presence of a cancer predisposition syndrome in a patient and give examples of such syndromes. [10]

Please answer question 9 in one book.

- 9 Write short notes on coagulation issues in children with cancer. [10]

Please answer question 10 in one book.

- 10 Write short notes on the methods used to preserve fertility in boys and girls undergoing treatment for malignancies. [10]