



THE COLLEGES OF MEDICINE OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Examination for the Subspecialty Certificate in Rheumatology of the
College of Physicians of South Africa



27 July 2017

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
 - a) Briefly discuss the two categories of pattern-recognition receptors and their role in the innate immune system. (10)
 - b) Briefly list the conditions that may mimic systemic sclerosis and discuss the clinical characteristics that may differentiate them from systemic sclerosis. (10)
 - c) Discuss the mechanism of action and side effects of the chloroquine sulphate. (10)[30]

- 2
 - a) Discuss the pharmacology of Colchicine under the following headings (10)
 - i) Mechanism of action.
 - ii) Drug interactions.
 - iii) Adverse reactions.
 - b) Describe the risk to the mother and foetus in a patient with SLE who is pregnant. Briefly discuss the optimal follow up and principles of management of this patient. (10)
 - c) Describe the musculoskeletal manifestations of sarcoidosis. (5)
 - d) Discuss the diagnosis of non-radiographic spondyloarthritis. (5)[30]

- 3
 - a) Briefly discuss the immunological basis for the biologic therapies used in the treatment of psoriatic arthritis. (10)
 - b) Discuss briefly the principles of peri-operative modifications in biologic disease-modifying anti-rheumatic therapies in rheumatoid patients undergoing joint arthroplasty surgery. (10)
 - c) Briefly review the epidemiology, clinical manifestations, diagnosis and management of Chickungunya arthritis. (10)[30]

- 4
 - a) Write short notes on necrotising autoimmune myopathy (NAM). (10)
 - b) Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the BASDAI in ankylosing spondylitis. (10)
 - c) Describe the auto-antibodies associated with HIV infection and the impact on rheumatic diseases. (10)[30]