



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



1 March 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)

- 1
 - a) Discuss the pathophysiology of Raynaud's phenomenon in a patient with systemic sclerosis, highlighting the potential targets for therapies. (9)
 - b) Write short notes on the rheumatological manifestations in a patient with multiple myeloma. (8)
 - c) Briefly discuss the microbiome in rheumatic diseases. (8)[25]

- 2
 - a) Discuss the clinical and immunological differences between rheumatoid and psoriatic arthritis. (8)
 - b) Write short notes on the use of glucosamine and chondroitin sulphate in the management of osteoarthritis. (9)
 - c) Discuss the role of IL6 in the pathogenesis of rheumatoid arthritis. (8)[25]

- 3
 - a) Briefly list the similarities and differences in muscle histopathology findings between polymyositis, dermatomyositis and inclusion body myositis. (8)
 - c) Describe the rheumatic manifestations of hepatitis C virus infection. (9)
 - d) Discuss allopurinol in relation to:
 - i) Mechanism of action.
 - ii) Important drug interactions.
 - iii) Hypersensitivity syndrome. (8)[25]

- 4
 - a) Discuss the impact of changes in lipid profile following DMARD therapy in rheumatoid arthritis and implication on cardiovascular risk. (8)
 - b) Discuss the mechanisms and management of neutropenia in patients with SLE. (9)
 - c) Briefly discuss immunisation in patients with rheumatic diseases. (8)[25]