



## THE COLLEGES OF MEDICINE OF SOUTH AFRICA

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

Examination for the Subspecialty Certificate in Rheumatology of the  
College of Physicians 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
- a) Discuss the role of Janus kinase in the pathogenesis of rheumatoid arthritis. (10)
  - b) Discuss the pathogenesis of enthesitis in patients with psoriasis. (10)
  - c) Discuss the management of dactylitis and enthesitis in patients with psoriasis. (10)
- [30]
- 2
- a) Briefly discuss the functional anatomy of the carpal tunnel. (10)
  - b) Briefly discuss Libman Sacks endocarditis. (10)
  - c) Write short notes on rheumatoid vasculitis. (10)
- [30]
- 3
- a) A 72-year-old female who has been living in the United Kingdom consults you, now that she has relocated to South Africa. She has been prescribed hydroxychloroquine for nodal osteoarthritis for the last 10 years. Discuss antimalarials in the rheumatic diseases under the following headings
    - i) Mechanism of action. (4)
    - ii) Indications. (4)
    - iii) Adverse effects. (4)
  - b) The laboratory that serves your hospital calls a meeting with you to invite your comments on auto-antibody testing, with a view to increasing the number of myositis specific antibody tests they will offer in future. Discuss the myositis specific antibody tests, highlighting the diagnostic and prognostic information that these investigations may offer. (8)
  - c) A 57-year-old patient with Bechet's disease is referred to you with a femoral-popliteal deep vein thrombosis. In the last year, this patient has had an episode of anterior uveitis, and recurrent oral and genital ulcers. Discuss your management approach as informed by the European League against Rheumatism. (10)
- [30]
- 4
- a) A 16-year-old girl is referred to your clinic with a provisional diagnosis of primary Raynaud's syndrome. Discuss the following
    - i) Clinical approach. (4)
    - ii) Investigations. (3)
    - iii) Management. (3)

- b) A 66-year-old patient with longstanding rheumatoid arthritis presents to you with bilateral pitting pedal oedema. Discuss your clinical approach to this problem. (10)
- c) A 36-year-old patient with diffuse systemic sclerosis presents with dyspnoea. Her lung functions reveal a Forced Vital Capacity of 65% expected, and a DLCO of 48%. A high resolution CT chest shows widespread ground glass in keeping with a Non-Specific Interstitial Pneumonitis (NSIP). Discuss her management. (10)
- [30]