The Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists

Final Fellowship Examination

Paper II – SAQ: Question 1 (critical appraisal)

18th August 2017 (Friday)

11:00 – 11:40 hours

Instructions:

a. Write your examination number on the top of each page. **ALL** answers by using ink or ball-point pen.

b. Answer **ALL** questions in this paper in 10 minutes.

Han YZ, et al. Neck circumference to inter-incisor gap ratio: a new predictor of difficult laryngoscopy in cervical spondylosis patients. BMC Anesthesiol 2017; 17: 55.

1. **Describe the study design. (2 marks)**

2. **Describe the objective(s) of this study. (2 marks)**

3. **Describe the primary outcome(s) of this study. (2 marks)**

4. **List 3 ways to minimize biases in this study. (3 marks)**

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5. **Body weight was found to be a significant predictor of difficult laryngoscopy in univariate analysis (table 3) but not in the binary multivariate logistic regression. Why? (1 mark)**

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6. **With regards to positive and negative predictive values, which one is more important in this study, and why? (2 marks)**

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7. **Assuming the sensitivity and specificity of RIIG to predict difficult laryngoscopy remains the same. What are the likely changes of positive and negative predictive values if the prevalence of difficult laryngoscopy is increased from 16.4% (in this study) to 32%? (2 marks)**

    Positive predictive value: **increase** ◯   **unchanged** ◯   **decrease** ◯
    (check one answer only)

    Negative predictive value: **increase** ◯   **unchanged** ◯   **decrease** ◯
    (check one answer only)

END OF QUESTION 1