



The Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists

Final Fellowship Examination Paper I

17th March 2006 (Friday)
09:00 – 10:30 hrs

Instructions:

- For each clinical scenario there are three related short questions.
- There are three pre-labelled answer books. Please make sure you answer the respective scenario in the appropriately answer book.
- Write your examination number on the cover of each answer book.
- Answer ALL questions (nine questions). They worth equal marks and you should spend approximately ten minutes for each short question.

Scenario A

A 29-year-old woman presents with acute cholecystitis for laparoscopic cholecystectomy. A gangrenous gall bladder is suspected. She is 22 weeks pregnant and the surgeon requests you to provide anaesthesia for essential surgery.

- In your preoperative assessment of this woman, what are you going to explain to her regarding risks to her and her foetus?
- Outline the principles of your anaesthetic management for this woman and foetus.
- Outline your postoperative care of this patient and her foetus in the first 24 hours.

Scenario B

A 56-year-old woman with insulin dependant diabetes is scheduled for elective craniotomy and resection of left cerebellar pontine angle tumour

- The surgeon is planning to monitor cortical somatosensory evoked potentials (SSEP), lower cranial nerves electromyography (EMG), and brainstem auditory evoked response (BAER). State how the use of these monitors might affect your choice of anaesthetic technique and which technique you would choose.
- Discuss the peri-operative management of this patient's diabetes mellitus.
- Following an uneventful 8 hours procedure the patient is transferred to recovery room extubated, awake and obeys commands. Her cardio-respiratory parameters are stable. After 20 minutes the recovery nurse informs you that the patient's GCS has dropped to 7. State how you will manage this, highlighting the possible causes.

Scenario C

A 30-year-old man is scheduled for video-assisted thoracoscopic pleurodesis for a left pneumothorax which he developed during his latest attack of acute severe asthma. He has had chronic asthma requiring frequent hospital admissions since childhood. He was discharged from the intensive care unit 4 days ago. His current medications are salbutamol and beclomethasone inhalers prednisolone 30 mg daily.

7. Discuss assessment and preparation of this patient before anaesthesia and surgery.
8. Twenty minutes after instituting one lung ventilation, the patient's pulse oximetry reading decreases from 97% to 88%. List the differential diagnosis. How would you manage this situation?
9. Seven days after the operation, the patient complains of persistent hoarseness. You are asked to review him. Outline the likely causes and your management.

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