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QUESTION 1

Match the below medication with the potential blood dyscrasia side effect it can be associated with. Lithium

- A. leukocytosis
- B. thrombocytopenia
- C. agranulocytosis
- D. megaloblastic anemia
- E. lymphocytosis

Correct Answer: A

Valproate can be associated with thrombocytopenia and platelet dysfunction especially at high doses.

Leukocytosis is a common benign effect of lithium. Clozaril can cause agranulocytosis in 12% of patients. Agranulocytosis can be an idiosyncratic adverse event with carbamazepine

QUESTION 2

Strong sedation, strong serotonin effect, and norepinephrine effect, Match the antidepressants below with the effect described.

- A. amitriptyline
- B. nefazodone
- C. citalopram
- D. phenelzine
- E. duloxetine

Correct Answer: A

The drugs listed in this question are examples of the various classes of antidepressants. These classes include the tricyclics, the SSRIs, the MAOIs, the triazopyridines, and the serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors. Understanding the site of action, neurotransmitter(s) involved, and side effects characteristic of these classes is helpful in selecting an antidepressant for a particular patient. SSRIs that are comparable in their antidepressant effects to the older tricyclics but significantly safer when taken in larger doses, as in suicidal overdose, are frequently used as the first choice in the treatment of depression. An example here is citalopram. Drugs that both inhibit serotonin reuptake and block 5-HT₂ receptors are characteristic of the triazopyridines. The overall effect of these actions is believed to decrease both depression and anxiety in patients. There are two drugs in this class: trazodone and nefazodone. Strong sedation caused by histaminergic and anticholinergic activity is seen in the older antidepressants--the tricyclics. These also have both serotonin and norepinephrine effects that are important in decreasing depression. Amitriptyline is the drug example listed here.

Drugs demonstrating little sedation and significant serotonin, norepinephrine, and dopamine effects are more characteristic of the serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors. They are effective in managing depression because there is no antihistaminergic activity and little sedation is seen. Duloxetine and Venlafaxine are examples. MAOIs



increase the concentrations of serotonin, norepinephrine, and dopamine by inhibiting their degradation. The MAOIs, although effective as antidepressants, are used relatively infrequently because of the potential development of a hypertensive crisis induced by consuming tyramine-containing foods while on the MAOI. An example here is phenelzine.

QUESTION 3

Select the appropriate incubation period of the Chicken pox infectious disease of childhood.

- A. 16 days
- B. 78 days
- C. 810 days
- D. 1021 days
- E. 3050 days
- F. 120180 days

Correct Answer: D

The incubation period for diphtheria is 17 days. The incubation period for chicken pox is 1021 days, average 14. Infectious mononucleosis, caused by the Epstein-Barr virus, has an estimated incubation period of 3050 days. The incubation period following infection by the mumps virus is usually 1618 days but, like chicken pox, may vary from 14 to 25 days. Pertussis has a shorter incubation period, usually 710 days, with a variation of 421 days. The usual period from contamination with tetanus spores to clinical symptoms is generally 68 days. For rubella, the incubation period is from 14 to 21 days, but usually ranges from 16 to 18 days.

QUESTION 4

A 39-year-old pregnant woman with chronic hypertension and one prior pregnancy is now at 38 weeks' gestation. She comes to labor and delivery with profuse vaginal bleeding and abdominal pain of sudden onset.

This patient has an external fetal monitor placed. Uterine tone seems to be increased, and there are occasional variable decelerations of the fetal heart to 90 BPM. Which of the following is the most appropriate management?

- A. tocolysis with a β -receptor agonist
- B. Pitocin induction of labor
- C. continued monitoring of mother and baby
- D. amniotomy
- E. cesarean section

Correct Answer: E

At term, a placental abruption severe enough to cause fetal distress warrants immediate delivery. If the pregnancy is remote from term, temporizing measures may be considered, such as observation. However, delivery should be achieved if the mother becomes hemodynamically unstable. Tocolysis is ineffective in relaxing the uterus and has the



added disadvantage of causing vasodilation of an already under-filled vascular system. Amniotomy and Pitocin induction will not cause delivery rapidly enough to prevent further deterioration of the fetus. Evidence of fetal distress makes continued monitoring unacceptable.

QUESTION 5

A 2-year-old boy presents with refusal to use his right arm for 1 day. He is otherwise well. His mother states she pulled upward on his arm the previous evening to keep him from tripping down the stairs.

Which of the following is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Colles fracture
- B. fractured clavicle
- C. greenstick fracture of the humerus
- D. rotator cuff injury
- E. subluxation of the radial head

Correct Answer: E

Nursemaid's elbow, or subluxation of the radial head, occurs in children following longitudinal traction on a pronated extended elbow. When attempting to restrain a child, an uninformed caretaker may jerk on a child's upper extremity. The result is a painful subluxed elbow that is easily reduced by simultaneous flexion and supination of the forearm.

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