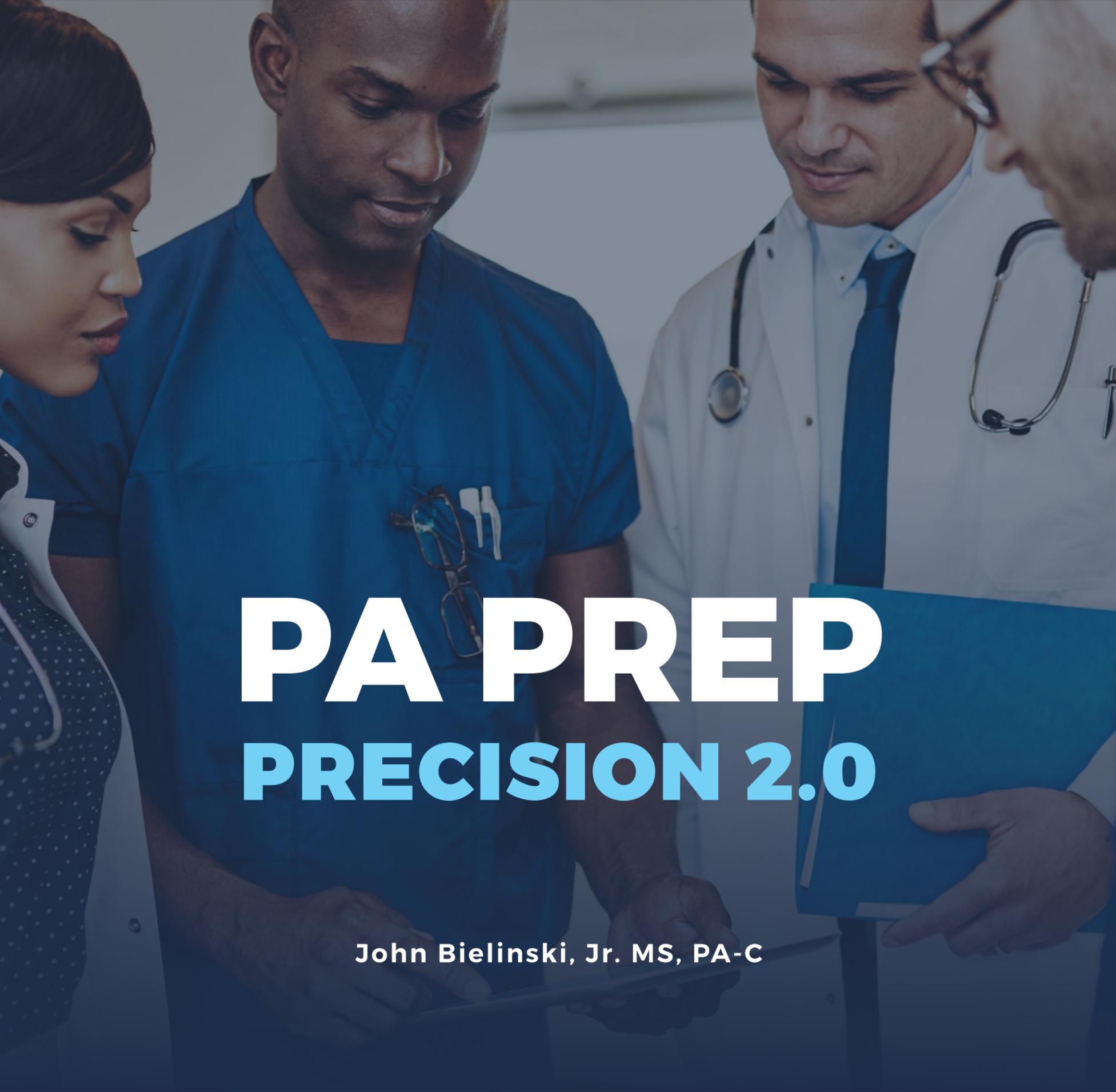




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Maximize Your Mind



PA PREP

PRECISION 2.0

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Must Know Content For Preparing For The PANCE

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PA PREP PRECISION 2.0

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| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM | | |
| Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm | Using Diagnostic & Laboratory Studies | 1. Initial imaging study of choice in suspected AAA to determine presence, size, & extent; Also used to monitor progression in size (expansion) = Abdominal US 2. Gold Standard to dx AAA = Angiography |
| Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Men > 65 YO; smoker Asx until expanding/ruptures; Rupture=Sudden, severe, constant back/flank/abdominal/groin pain and/or in shock Palpable pulsatile abdominal mass on PE |
| Acute MI | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | IV fluids, O2, ASA, NTG, Beta blocker, ACE-I, statins, anticoags, anti-platelet meds |
| Acute MI, Anterior | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | ST elevations in V1-V4 on 12-lead EKG ST depressions in 2 other contiguous leads |
| Adverse Drug Effect: Antiarrhythmics | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Amiodarone SE's = optic neuritis/thyroid disease/hepatitis/pulmonary fibrosis Na+ channel blockers OD = wide complex QRS |
| Afib | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | EKG: irregularly irregular rhythm, no P waves, usually narrow complex QRS Presents as either an arrhythmia or an embolic event (CVA, limb ischemia, mesentery ischemia, renal artery stenosis) |
| Aneurysm, thoracoabdominal | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | BB's reduce shearing forces, decrease expansion & rupture risk. |
| Angina | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Stable = Nitro/BB/CCB Unstable = "MONA" (morphine, O2, nitro, ASA) |
| Aortic Aneurysm | Clinical Intervention | Lifestyle mods (quit smoking, decrease diabetes & cholesterol risks; regular exercise; BB, statin, daily low-dose aspirin, plavix; Anticoags Surgical revascularization Many AAA's that rupture die of CV collapse prior to arrival @ hospital |
| Aortic Stenosis | Clinical Intervention | Aortic valve replacement only effective treatment No exercise restrictions in pts with mild AS; Severe AS:avoid physical exertion/vasodilators (ex. nitrates)/negative inotropes (CCB, BB) |
| Arrhythmia, Complete Heart Block | Clinical Intervention | Acute/symptomatic: temporary pacing --> permanent pacemaker Definitive tx: permanent pacemaker |
| Arrhythmia, PAC's | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | PAC is a premature "beat"/QRS that has a P wave before it |
| Arrhythmia, Paroxysmal Supraventricular Tachycardia (PSVT) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Heart rate > 100 bpm; rhythm usually regular with narrow QRS complexes; P waves hard to discern due to the rapid rate |
| Arrhythmia, Paroxysmal Supraventricular Tachycardia (PSVT) | Clinical Intervention | 1. Vagal nerve stimulation with maneuver or 2. Adenosine |
| Arrhythmia, Ventricular Fibrillation | Clinical Intervention | These pts are in cardiac arrest. CPR & defibrillation (unsynchronized cardioversion) |
| Arrhythmia, V-tach | Clinical Intervention | Stable sustained V-tach: Anti-arrhythmics (Amiodarone*, Lidocaine, Procainamide) Unstable V-tach with a pulse: synchronized cardioversion V-tach (no pulse): Defibrillate (unsynchronized cardioversion) + CPR Torsade's: IV Mag |
| Arrhythmia, V-tach (Torsade's de Pointes) | Clinical Intervention | Do EKG; Tx with IV magnesium sulfate |
| Atrial Fibrillation | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Slow the heart down (BB/CCB) 2. Anticoagulate (almost always) 3. Convert (pharmacologically or electrically) |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Atrial Septal Defect | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | oxygenated L-atrium blood crosses ASD and mixes with deoxygenated R-atrium blood; greater blood volume in R-atria can lead to R-HF, arrhythmia, pulmonary HTN |
| Atrial Septal Defect | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | systolic ejection crescendo-decrescendo murmur best heard @ pulmonic area (LUSB); widely fixed-split S2 that does NOT vary with respiration |
| Cardiac Arrest | Clinical Intervention | CPR 1st Defibrillate if in V-tach or V-fib Give epinephrine, other meds as indicated |
| Cardiac Tamponade | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Beck's Triad (JVD-"distended neck veins", muffled heart sounds, low BP) Pulsus Paradoxus: > 10 mm Hg decrease in SBP w/ inspiration |
| Cardiac Tamponade | Using Diagnostic & Laboratory Studies | ECHO: ventricles collapse in diastole (+ presence of an effusion) |
| Cardiogenic Shock | Clinical Intervention | 1. Emergent ECHO 2. O2, Isotonic fluids (only shock where we do NOT use aggressive fluids) 3. Inotropes 4. Pressors 5. Admit to ICU & Tx underlying cause |
| Coarctation of the Aorta | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | suspect in child with secondary HTN, bilateral lower extremity claudication; systolic murmur that radiates to back/scapula or chest; systolic BP in upper extremities > lower extremities; delayed or weak femoral pulses; CXR: rib-notching/"3" sign |
| Coarctation of the Aorta | History Taking & Performing Physical Exam | secondary HTN in child; bilateral lower extremity claudication; systolic murmur radiating to back/scapula or chest; systolic BP in upper extremities > lower extremities; delayed or weak femoral pulses |
| Coarctation of the Aorta | Clinical Intervention | Surgical correction: balloon angioplasty+/- stent PGE1 pre-operatively to decrease sxS/improve lower extremity blood flow |
| Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Poor pumping --> blood stalls and backs up in the circulation JVD/HJR/Ascites/Edema for R-sided HF S3 and rales in lungs for L-sided HF |
| Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) | History Taking & Performing Physical Exam | Hx always consists of SOB & DOE PE= JVD/HJR/Ascites/Edema for R-HF; S3 and rales in lungs for L-HF |
| Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Overall health: wt. loss, stop smoking/ETOH Restrict sodium intake to 3 g/day Fluid restriction (< 2 L/day) with class IV HF Daily weight monitoring |
| Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Acute CHF tx: "LMNOP" (lasix, morphine, nitro, O2, Position/bi-PaP) Chronic CHF: ACE/ARB, BB |
| Coronary Artery Disease | Using Diagnostic & Laboratory Studies | Workup: EKG initial test --> stress testing --> Angiography = Gold Standard |
| Coronary Artery Disease | Clinical Intervention | Open the artery with a stent or bypass it with a graft (CABG) |
| Coronary Artery Vasospasm | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | 1. Variant (Prinzmetal) Angina: coronary spasm --> transient ST elevations usually without MI; chest pain usually nonexertional, often occurring @ rest (early morning or wakes pt up at night); EKG:transient ST elevations; Angiography:vasospasm with IV Ergonovine 2. Cocaine-induced MI: coronary artery vasospasm; DOC= CCB & Nitrates; Avoid BB in cocaine-induced MI |
| Dilated Cardiomyopathy | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | The muscular wall of the L ventricle is enlarged, weakened, and thus cannot pump well; Commonly d/t ETOH/cocaine abuse, thyroid disease, or pregnancy. Causes CHF |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--|--|---|
| Dilated Cardiomyopathy | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Standard HF tx: ACEI, Diuretics, BB (if not in decompensated CHF), Digoxin, Na ⁺ restriction, Implantable Defibrillator (AICD) if EF < 30-35%, Cardiac transplant |
| Dilated Cardiomyopathy | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Limit alcohol Manage BP, Lipids, and DM Increase Exercise |
| Dissecting Aortic Aneurysm | Using Diagnostic & Laboratory Studies | 1. CT Scan w/ contrast (CT 3-D is rapidly becoming the test of choice (esp. in ER)) 2. MRI Angiography = Gold Standard 3. TEE: accurate, portable. May be used initially if hemodynamically unstable 4. CXR: widening of the mediastinum |
| Dressler Syndrome | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Aspirin or Colchicine |
| DVT | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Most important consequence is a pulmonary embolism. RF's: Virchow's Triad (stasis, damage, hypercoagulability) |
| Endocarditis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Tx with abx. Usual bug is staph, so we tx with Vancomycin Prophylaxis: DOC = 2g Amoxicillin 30-60 min before procedure (600 mg Clindamycin if PCN allergic) |
| Endocarditis, infective | Using Diagnostic & Laboratory Studies | 1. Blood cultures (before abx)- 3 sets at least 1 hr apart if stable; 2. EKG; 3. Echo; 4. Labs: CBC; Increased ESR/Rheumatoid factor Modified Duke Criteria |
| Essential Hypertension | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Stage 1: SBP 130-139 or DBP 80-89 Stage 2: SBP 140+ or DBP 90+ |
| Giant Cell Arteritis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | usually elderly female; unilateral temporal HA with visual disturbance, scalp tenderness, jaw claudication, throat pain |
| Giant Cell Arteritis | Clinical Intervention | GCA is a clinical dx! Labs and biopsy are supportive. Dx via increased ESR > 100, Temporal artery biopsy) |
| Giant Cell Arteritis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | High-dose corticosteroids (ex. prednisone 40-60 mg/day x 6 wks) with gradual tapering based on sx's and ESR |
| Heart malformation, Left Atrium | Using Diagnostic & Laboratory Studies | Echocardiogram |
| Heart murmur: Aortic | Using Diagnostic & Laboratory Studies | Echocardiogram |
| Hypercholesterolemia | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Wt. loss, exercise, low saturated fats |
| Hyperlipidemia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Best med to lower LDL = statins. Best med to lower triglycerides = Fibrates. Best med to raise HDL = Niacin. Bile acid sequestrants (Cholestyramine) only one safe in pregnancy. |
| Hypertension | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Wt. loss; Dietary Approaches to Stop HTN (DASH) Diet is high in veggies, fruits, low-fat dairy, whole grains, poultry, fish & nuts. Low in sweets, sugar-sweetened drinks, & red meats. Salt restriction; Exercise (aerobic & possibly resistance training); Limit alcohol intake |
| Hypertrophic Obstructive Cardiomyopathy (HOCM) | Using Diagnostic & Laboratory Studies | 1. Echo: asymmetrical wall thickness (esp. septal) > 15 mm, systolic anterior motion of mitral valve 2. EKG: LVH (increased voltage on EKG), atrial enlargement 3. CXR: cardiomegaly |
| Hypertrophic Obstructive Cardiomyopathy (HOCM) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Medical: BB=1st line 2. Surgical Myomectomy 3. Alcohol Septal Ablation 4. and/or ICD placement |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Hypotension | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | If cool/clammy, it's volume loss and they need fluids/pressors; If "warm shock," they need vasopressors. |
| Junctional Tachycardia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | impulse generated from AV node; 3 different P waves- either no P wave, an inverted P wave, or a P wave after the QRS complex |
| Kawasaki Disease | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | MC in children (esp < 5 YO), boys, Asians "warm + CREAM" (fever + 4 of the following 5: Conjunctivitis, Rash, Extremity (peripheral) changes [ex.arthritis], Adenopathy (cervical lymphadenopathy), mucous membrane [ex. lip swelling/fissures, strawberry tongue]) |
| Kawasaki Disease | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | MC in children (esp <5 YO), boys, Asians Complications: coronary artery aneurysm*, myocardial infarction |
| Malignant Hypertension | History Taking & Performing Physical Exam | High BP + signs of acute end organ damage --> (AMS, Retinopathy (papilledema), Renal disease, and proteinuria) |
| Mitral Regurg Intervention | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | surgical valve repair when heart decompensates avoid stimulants, aerobic exercise; stress reduction May use BB if increased HR, palpitations, or nervousness |
| Mitral Stenosis | History Taking & Performing Physical Exam | MCC = rheumatic heart disease; pulm sx: dyspnea (MC sx), pulm HTN; Afib, R-sided HF (due to prolonged pulm. HTN); Mitral facies PE: loud S1; opening snap; early-mid diastolic rumble @ apex (low-pitched) esp in LLD position; decrease murmur with valsalva, standing, inspiration; Increase murmur with laying supine, squatting, expiration, exercise, & LLD position |
| Mitral Valve Prolapse | History Taking & Performing Physical Exam | ask about connective tissue disorders (b/c assoc. with Marfan's, Ehlers-Danlos, Osteogenesis imperfecta); MC in young women (15-35YO); autonomic dysfunction (anxiety, atypical chest pain, panic attacks, palpitations, syncope); Hx of mitral regurg? PE: +/- Narrow AP diameter, low body wt., hypotension, scoliosis, pectus excavatum; check for murmur |
| Mitral Valve Prolapse | Clinical Intervention | ECHO shows posterior bulging leaflets Reassurance only (good prognosis). BB's only if autonomic dysfunction |
| Normal findings, EKG, pacemaker | Using Diagnostic & Laboratory Studies | Look for paced spikes followed by a P wave or QRS on EKG |
| Patent Ductus Arteriosus (PDA) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | b/w descending thoracic aorta & pulmonary artery; L to R (noncyanotic); continuous machine-like murmur loudest @ pulmonic area (LUSB); wide pulse pressure, bounding pulses |
| Patent Ductus Arteriosus (PDA) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | NSAIDs will close PDA in a pre-term baby |
| Pericardial Effusion | Clinical Intervention | Observation if small & no evidence of tamponade. Tx the underlying cause. +/- Pericardiocentesis if tamponade or large effusion. Pericardial window drainage if recurrent |
| Pericarditis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | acute fibrinous inflammation of the pericardium; may cause on effusion; MC caused by virus (esp. Coxsackie & Echovirus) Chest pain worse when laying down; better when sitting up/leaning forward; pericardial friction rub |
| Pericarditis | History Taking & Performing Physical Exam | MC caused by virus (esp. Coxsackie & Echovirus) CP that is pleuritic (sharp & worse with inspiration), persistent, & postural (worse when supine & relieved by sitting/leaning forward) +/- radiates to trapezius/back; Fever usually present; pericardial friction rub |
| Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Cilostazol - decreases platelet aggregation AND is a direct arterial vasodilator |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|---|---|--|
| Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD) | History Taking & Performing Physical Exam | Claudication Ankle-Brachial Index (ABI) |
| Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Intermittent claudication brought on by exercise/walking & relieved with rest; 6 P's; Pale on elevation, Dusky red with dependency (dependent rubor); ulcers on toes or points of trauma (Lateral malleolus); Muscle atrophy, thin/shiny skin, hair loss, thick nails, cool limbs, usually no edema, decreased capillary refill, decreased/absent pulses |
| Postpartum Cardiomyopathy | Using Diagnostic & Laboratory Studies | Echocardiogram & BNP (this is pregnancy-induced dilated cardiomyopathy) |
| Prinzmetal Variant Angina | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Sxs and ST elevations resolve with CCB or Nitro |
| Raynaud's Disease | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | dihydro CCB (ex. Nifedipine) |
| Renal Artery Stenosis | Using Diagnostic & Laboratory Studies | 1. Non-invasive: options include CT or MRA & Ultrasound 2. Renal arteriography: most definitive (gold standard). Do not use if renal failure is present. |
| Rheumatic Heart Disease | History Taking & Performing Physical Exam | GABHS (Strep pyogenes) infection; complication of rheumatic fever; JONES criteria + evidence of recent strep infection |
| Second Degree AV Heart Block (Mobitz type II) | Clinical Intervention | 1. Atropine, 2. Temporary Pacing, 3. Definitive = permanent pacemaker |
| Secondary Hypertension | History Taking & Performing Physical Exam | Young person with sudden, severe HTN; Look for secondary causes such as abdominal bruits, signs of thyroid disease, low K ⁺ (hyperaldosterone), abnormal pulses (coarctation), HTN refractory to an ACEI use (renal artery stenosis), or pheochromocytoma |
| Sick Sinus Syndrome | Using Diagnostic & Laboratory Studies | EKG: combination of sinus arrest with alternating paroxysms of atrial tachyarrhythmias & bradyarrhythmias |
| STEMI | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Reperfusion Therapy: PCI or Thrombolytics 2. Antithrombotics 3. Adjunctive Therapy: BB, ACEI, Nitrates, Morphine; K ⁺ /Mg ⁺ repletion; statin therapy; monitor BP & glucose and decrease RF's |
| Superficial Thrombophlebitis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Aseptic: NSAIDs; may consider Heparin & Warfarin if clot is near saphenofemoral junction Septic: IV abx: PCN + Gentamicin |
| Tetralogy of Fallot | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | MC cyanotic heart disease RV outflow obstruction, RVH, VSD, & overriding aorta Test spells; CXR: boot-shaped heart |
| Tricuspid Regurg | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Holosystolic blowing high-pitched murmur @ L-mid sternal border; No radiation; Increase murmur intensity with inspiration (Carvallo's sign) & with squatting |
| Unstable Angina | Using Diagnostic & Laboratory Studies | Exercise/Nuclear Stress Test |
| Unstable Angina | Clinical Intervention | MONA- morphine, oxygen, nitro, aspirin; if needed, revascularize with stent/PCI or CABG |
| Wolff-Parkinson-White (WPW) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | wide complex QRS (>0.12 sec), shorted PR interval, Delta wave (slurred upstroke of QRS) |
| Wolff-Parkinson-White (WPW) | Clinical Intervention | 1. Stable: vagal maneuvers --> procainamide 2. Unstable: synchronized cardioversion 3. Definitive: radiofrequency ablation (indicated if recurrent, symptomatic episodes) |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--|--|---|
| PULMONOLOGY | | |
| Acute Bronchitis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | inflammation of trachea/bronchi; often follows URI; MCC = Adenovirus; Hallmark = cough (+/- productive, lasts 1-3 weeks); CXR = normal or nonspecific |
| Acute Bronchitis | Clinical Intervention | Clinical dx unless pneumonia suspected --> if so, order CXR Mngmnt: 1. Symptomatic: fluids, rest, +/- bronchodilators; +/- antitussives only for adults 2. Abx if not responsive to conservative tx, cough > 7-10 days, elderly, COPD, immunocompromised |
| Acute Epiglottitis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | medical emergency; MC due to Hib (reduced incidence due to Hib vaccination-given at 2,4,6, &12-15 mo). MC in children 3 months-6 years old. Males 2x more common. DM is a risk factor in adults. Laryngoscopy is definitive diagnosis and provides direct visualization but may provoke spasm. If high suspicion, do NOT attempt to visualize the epiglottis with a tongue depressor in children. May be attempted in adults. |
| Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | MC in critically ill pts; 1. severe refractory hypoxemia = hallmark, 2. bilateral pulmonary infiltrates on CXR, 3. PCWP < 18 mm Hg |
| Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. ABC: PaO2/FIO2 ratio < 200 mm Hg that is not responsive to 100% O2 (refractory hypoxemia) 2. CXR: diffuse bilateral pulmonary infiltrates ("white out pattern"); usually spares the costophrenic angles 3. Cardiac Cath of Pulmonary Artery (Swanz-Ganz): PCWP < 18 mm Hg |
| Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) | Clinical Intervention | Positive pressure ventilation: either intubation or BiPAP |
| Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | only genetic disease linked to COPD in younger adults (<40 YO); associated with a panlobular emphysema Blood testing: COPD tests (PFT/Spirometry, CXR/CT scan, EKG) |
| Asbestosis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | CXR: pleural calcifications/pleural plaques/pleural thickening; affects lower lobes primarily Biopsy: linear asbestos bodies |
| Aspergillosis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | a fungus found in garden and houseplant soil and compost; transmitted via inhalation; MC affects lungs, sinuses, and CNS; produces aflatoxin B1- assoc. with increased risk of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) Aspergilloma: incidental finding on CXR or cough + hemoptysis; "fungal ball" |
| Aspergillosis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Increased IgE & eosinophilia if allergic Biopsy: dusky, necrotic tissue (ex. nose) - septate hyphae with regular branching at wide angles (>45 degrees) |
| Aspergillosis | Clinical Intervention | 1. Allergic: tapered corticosteroids, chest physiotherapy, +/- Itraconazole 2. Severe/Invasive Aspergillus or sinusitis: Voriconazole = DOC!; high-dose Itraconazole, Amphotericin B, Caspofungin 3. Aspergilloma: symptomatic surgical resection; asx = observation |
| Aspiration Pneumonia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Anaerobes; MC in R lower lobe Klebsiella with severe alcoholics, debilitated, chronic illness, & aspirators; assoc. with cavitory lesions; currant jelly sputum |
| Asthma | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Pulmonary Function Test = Gold Standard (shows reversible obstruction) Diagnosis with either 12% improvement in FEV1 after SABA administration or pt. gets 20% worse on provocation testing (Methacholine Challenge Test) |
| Asthma | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Decreasing risk factors such as tobacco smoke, air pollution, chemical irritants including perfumes, # of lower respiratory tract infections; Spacers for inhalers |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--|--|---|
| Asthma | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Acute Tx: 1. SABA, anticholinergics, PO steroids Chronic Tx: 1. Inhaled corticosteroids, 2. LABA, 3. ICS/LABA combo (ex. Symbicort, Advair diskus) |
| Asthma | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | wheezing & prolonged expiratory phase; +/- cough that is worse at night |
| Atelectasis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | MC cause of Post-Op fever day 1 |
| Bacterial Tracheitis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | inspiratory strider; increasing deep or barking croup cough post URI; "scratchy" feeling in throat; hoarseness; chest pain, fever, earache, headache, dizziness (light-headed); dyspnea (esp. worse at night) |
| Bronchiectasis | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | impaired clearance of mucous --> lung infxns; recurrent/chronic lung infxns (H.flu MCC if not due to cystic fibrosis); daily chronic cough with thick, mucopurulent foul-smelling sputum; hemoptysis; persistent crackles at base of lungs; dyspnea, wheeze, rhonchi, clubbing |
| Bronchiectasis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | study of choice is high-resolution CT scan; shows airway dilation "tram tracking" "signet ring sign" = pulmonary artery coupled with dilated bronchus PFT: Obstructive |
| Bronchogenic Carcinoma | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. CXR/CT Scan: often seen on CXR but not used for screening. CT used for staging. 2. Sputum Cytology: may be useful for central lesions 3. Bronchoscopy: useful for central lesions 4. Pleural fluid analysis 5. Transthoracic needle biopsy: useful for peripheral lesions. CT or fluoroscopy guided. 6. Mediastinoscopy |
| Chronic Bronchitis | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | productive cough for 6 months out of the last 2 years; usually obese with leg edema ("blue bloaters") PE: rales (crackles), rhonchi, wheezing; +/- signs of cor pulmonale (peripheral edema, cyanosis) |
| Chronic Bronchitis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | 1. quit smoking; 2. Vaccines (pneumococcal & flu); 3. pulmonary rehab; 4. Surgery; 5. Abx used in acute exacerbation of chronic bronchitis (Azithromycin shown to have anti-inflammatory properties in the lungs) |
| Chronic Bronchitis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | *quit smoking* 1. Combo therapy with anticholinergics + B2 agonists 2. ICS -Never used alone! Add to a LABA (ICS + LABA) 3. O2 = only medical therapy to decrease mortality! |
| Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Oxygen is the only medical therapy proven to decrease mortality Bronchodilators (anticholinergics/B2 agonists) Corticosteroids (inhaled corticosteroids NOT considered monotherapy- add to a LABA!) Abx with exacerbations |
| Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | cough, worsening dyspnea, progressive exercise intolerance, sputum production |
| Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) | Clinical Intervention | 1. quit smoking; 2. Vaccines (pneumococcal & flu); 3. pulmonary rehab; 4. Surgery; 5. Abx used in acute exacerbation of chronic bronchitis (Azithromycin shown to have anti-inflammatory properties in the lungs) |
| Cystic Fibrosis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Autosomal recessive defect that prevents chloride transport (water movement out of cell) --> build up of thick, viscous mucus in lungs, pancreas, liver, intestines --> obstructive disease & exocrine gland dysfunction (ex. pancreatic insufficiency) Chromosome 7; life expectancy 30-49; MC affects Caucasians/Northern Europeans |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Cystic Fibrosis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Classic: young pt with bronchiectasis, recurrent respiratory infections/chronic sinusitis, pancreatic insufficiency (steatorrhea), growth delays & infertility Meconium Ileus @ birth |
| Cystic Fibrosis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | sweat chloride > 60 mmol/L on 2 occasions after administration of Pilocarpine CXR: bronchiectasis (CF=MCC of bronchiectasis in US) PFT's: Obstructive (often irreversible) DNA analysis = definitive test; Genotyping Sputum cultures often grow Pseudomonas |
| Cystic Fibrosis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. airway clearance tx: bronchodilators, mucolytics, abx, decongestants 2. Pancreatic Enzyme Replacement (A,D,E,K) 3. Lung & Pancreatic transplant 4. Vaccines (Pneumococcal, Flu) |
| Emphysema | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Bronchodilators: Anticholinergics + B2 agonists 2. ICS + LABA 3. O2 |
| Emphysema | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | cig smoking?; MC sx = dyspnea; mild cough Hyperinflation: hyperresonance, decreased/absent breath sounds, decreased fremitus, barrel chest (increased AP diameter), quiet chest, pursed lip breathing Resp. alkalosis (resp. acidosis in acute exacerbation); cachectic; "pink puffer" |
| Empyema | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | A type of pleural effusion: grossly purulent/turbulent effusion (direct infection of the pleural space) |
| Empyema | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. CXR: PA/Lateral- blunting of costophrenic angles; LLD= best film/detects smaller effusions, empyemas 2. Thoracentesis = Test of Choice! 3. CT scan: to confirm empyema |
| Haemophilus influenzae Pneumonia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | 2nd MCC of CAP; increased with underlying pulmonary disease (esp. COPD); gram (-) rods (bacilli); green sputum seen with H. flu & Pseudomonas; lobar pneumonia |
| Influenza | Clinical Intervention | 1. Supportive: ex. acetaminophen or salicylates, rest 2. Antivirals usually only needed in pts with high risk complications or if hospitalized. Best if initiated within 48 hrs of sx onset - Neuraminidase inhibitor: Oseltamivir (Tamiflu) |
| Influenza | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Usually a clinical dx; rapid influenza test (nasal swab) or viral culture |
| Influenza | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | influenza vaccine given annually (in Oct/Nov) Trivalent vaccine: CI if allergy to eggs, gelatin, or thimerosal Intranasal (live attenuated): CI if prego or >50YO |
| Klebsiella Pneumonia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | severe alcoholics, debilitated, chronic illness, aspirators; cavitory lesions; current jelly sputum Upper lobe (esp. R upper lobe) with bulging fissures, cavitations --> Klebsiella |
| Legionella Pneumonia | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | associated with GI sxs, Increased LFT's, & hyponatremia Send Legionella urine antigen +/- PCR |
| Legionella Pneumonia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Levofloxacin (Levaquin) or Azithromycin (Zithromax) |
| Lung Cancer | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | MCC of cancer deaths in men & women; MCC= cig smoking (includes 2nd hand); 2nd MCC = asbestosis; Adenocarcinoma = MC type of lung cancer; greatest tendency to METS to brain, bone, liver, LN, and adrenals |
| Lung Cancer | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | cough, chest pain, SOB, unexplained wt. loss, sometimes hemoptysis (in small & squamous cell) |
| Lung Disease, Restrictive | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | PFT: Decreased lung volumes (decreased TLC, RV, RV/TLC, FRC, FVC); Normal or Increased FEV1/FVC Decreased compliance |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Negative Pressure Pulmonary Edema | Clinical Intervention | seen in post-extubation laryngospasm; must open the airway |
| Normal Anatomy, Neurovascular Bundle | Clinical Intervention | Needle decompression, chest tubes go over the rib to avoid neurovascular bundle |
| Obstructive Sleep Apnea | Clinical Intervention | Childhood sleep apnea: adenotonsillectomy + wt. normalization = 1st line Adults: CPAP machine; surgery is uvulopalatopharyngoplasty |
| Pertussis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | aka Whooping Cough; due to Bordetella pertussis |
| Pertussis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | 1. Catarrhal phase (URI sx for 1-2 weeks; most contagious) --> 2. Paroxysmal phase (cough fits, inspiratory whoop, +/- post-tussive emesis for 2-4 weeks) --> 3. Convalescent phase |
| Pertussis | Clinical Intervention | 1. Supportive = mainstay of tx (O2, nebulizers, ventilation as needed) 2. Abx: shortens duration if started within the first 7 days of sx onset. Macrolides (Erythromycin, Azithromycin); TMP-SMX (Bactrim) 2nd line if allergic |
| Pertussis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Prevention: DTaP/Tdap Complications: include pneumonia, encephalopathy, otitis media, sinusitis, and seizures. Highly contagious (esp. during catarrhal phase) Macrolides given to exposed contacts |
| Pertussis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | PCR of Nasopharyngeal swab = gold standard |
| Pleural Effusion | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | abnormal accumulation of fluid in pleural space Transudate: due to either increased hydrostatic pressure &/or decreased oncotic pressure (CHF = MCC of transudate) Exudative: due to increased vascular permeability (ex. infxn/inflammation); contains increased plasma proteins, WBC's, platelets, +/- RBC's |
| Pleural Effusion | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Clinically asx; if sx's, usually dyspnea, "pleuritic" chest pain, cough PE: decreased tactile fremitus, decreased breath sounds, dullness to percussion; +/- pleural friction rub |
| Pleural Effusion | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. CXR: PA/Lateral- blunting of costophrenic angles; LLD= best film/detects smaller effusions 2. Thoracentesis = Test of Choice! 3. CT scan: to confirm empyema |
| Pleural Effusion | Clinical Intervention | 1. Tx underlying condition. Diuretics, restrict sodium 2. Thoracentesis = Gold Standard (Diagnostic & Therapeutic) 3. Chest tube pleural fluid drainage if empyema 4. Pleurodesis: if malignant or chronic (Talc (MC used), Doxy) |
| Pleurisy | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | sharp, stabbing, burning or dull pain in the R or L side of the chest during breathing, especially when one inhales & exhales/laughs |
| Pneumococcal Pneumonia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | MCC of CAP; gram (+) cocci in pairs (diplococci); single rigor, pleuritic chest pain; bronchial breath sounds, dullness to percussion, increased tactile fremitus, + egophay; inspiratory rales; rusty (blood-tinged) sputum |
| Pneumococcal Pneumonia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | combination of beta-lactam (Ceftriaxone/Amoxicillin/Amox-Clav) + Macrolide (Azithromycin) |
| Pneumococcal Pneumonia | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Pevnar 13 to kids < 20 YO >65 YO pts get Pevnar 13 then Pneumovax 23 Anyone with > risks of infection (i.e. COPD or DM) between 2-65 gets immunized |
| Pneumoconiosis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Chronic Fibrosis --> inhalation of mineral dusts Silicosis: mining, quarry work with granite/slate/quartz, pottery or sandblasting Pneumoconiosis: "Black lung disease" Berylliosis: aerospace, ceramics, tools, & dye; increased risk of lung, stomach, colon cancer Byssinosis: "Brown lung disease" due to cotton exposure Asbestosis: long-term exposure to asbestosis with increased risk of malignant mesothelioma or pleura & bronchogenic carcinoma |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Pneumocystis jiroveci Pneumonia (PCP) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. TMP-SMX (Bactrim) = DOC x 21 days +/- add Prednisone if hypoxic 2. Sulfa allergy --> Dapsone-Trimethoprim PCP Prophylaxis in HIV pts: give TMP-SMX when CD4 < 200 |
| Pneumonia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Findings on PE: dullness to percussion, increased tactile fremitus, + egophony, bronchial breath sounds |
| Pneumothorax | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Primary: no underlying lung disease; mainly affects tall, thin males 20-40YO, smokers, + family hx Secondary: + underlying lung disease without trauma (ex. COPD, asthma). Traumatic: iatrogenic (ex. during CPR, thoracentesis, PEEP (ventilation), subclavian line placement) or other trauma (ex. car accident, etc.) Tension: positive air pressure pushes lungs, trachea, great vessels & heart to the contralateral side. Immediately life threatening. Catamenial PTX: occurs during menstruation (ectopic endometrial tissue in the pleura) Chest pain (pleuritic, unilateral, non-exertional, sudden onset), dyspnea, hyperresonance to percussion, decreased fremitus, decreases breath sounds over affected side; Tension PTX: increased JVP, pulsus paradoxus, hypotension (present in shock) |
| Pneumothorax | Clinical Intervention | Small Simple = observe for at least 6 hrs. with repeat CXR to affirm no progression + 24-48 hrs follow-up Symptomatic = chest tube (tube thoracostomy) If in shock (Tension PTX) = immediate needle thoracostomy |
| Pulmonary Embolism | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Dyspnea = MC sx; Tachypnea = MC sign 1. dyspnea, 2. pleuritic chest pain, & 3. hemoptysis PE: pulmonary exam usually normal (may have rales or pleural friction rub); (+) Homan's sign |
| Pulmonary Embolism | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Helical CT Scan (CT-PA) = best initial test for suspected PE; 2. VQ Scan; 3. Pulmonary Angiogram = Gold Standard; 4. Doppler US |
| Pulmonary Embolism | Clinical Intervention | Hemodynamically Stable: 1. anticoagulation or 2. If anticoagulation is CI --> IVC filter; Unstable: 1. Thrombolytics or 2. If thrombolytics CI --> embolectomy |
| Pulmonary Fibrosis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Chronic progressive interstitial scarring (fibrosis) from persistent inflammation, causing loss of pulmonary function with restrictive component of unknown cause |
| Pulmonary Fibrosis | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | dyspnea and/or nonproductive cough (usually gradual onset); PE: fine bibasilar inspiratory crackles, clubbing of the fingers, +/- cyanosis |
| Pulmonary Fibrosis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. CXR/CT Scan: diffuse reticular opacities (honeycombing*), ground glass opacities 2. Biopsy: honeycombing (large cystic airspaces) PFT: restrictive disease |
| Pulmonary Fibrosis | Clinical Intervention | No effective tx! Strategies include: quit smoking, O2, corticosteroids in some acute exacerbations; Lung transplant = only cure! |
| Pulmonary Hypertension | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | dyspnea, chest pain, weakness, fatigue, cyanosis, syncope, edema, accentuated increased S2 (+/- fixed or paradoxically split S2); signs of R-sided HF: Increased HVP, peripheral edema, ascites, systolic ejection click, RV heave, +/- pulmonary regurg |
| Pulmonary Hypertension | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | CXR: enlarged pulmonary arteries EKG: cor pulmonale (RVH, Right axis deviation) Right Heart Cath: Mean Pulmonary Artery Pressure > 25 @ rest (>30 with exercise) |
| Pulmonary Nodule | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Observation: if low malignant probability; active surveillance. CT may be used to assess the lesion initially & evaluate surrounding tissues. 2. Transthoracic needle aspiration or bronchoscopy: intermediate probability. Needle aspiration often for peripheral lesions; Bronchoscopy for central lesions. 3. Resection with biopsy: preferred if high probability of malignancy |
| Sarcoidosis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Increased incidence in African-Americans; dry (nonproductive) cough; painless hilar lymphadenopathy; erythema nodosum; lupus pernio; anterior uveitis |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Sarcoidosis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | CXR showing hilar lymph nodes; elevated ACE levels; Tissue biopsy: non-caseating granulomas; PFT's: primarily used to monitor tx response); Hypercalciuria/ Hypercalcemia; Increased IgG, Increased ESR |
| Sarcoidosis | Clinical Intervention | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Observation: most have spontaneous remission in 2 years and require no tx 2. Oral Corticosteroids = treatment of choice when tx is needed 3. Methotrexate: steroid alternative or for steroid-refractory cases 4. Hydroxychloroquine: for chronic disfiguring skin lesions 5. NSAIDs for musculoskeletal sx's & erythema nodosum 6. Single lung transplant in severe cases |
| Silicosis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | sand-blasting/quarry work/pottery, etc. Small round opacities throughout lungs- "eggshell calcifications" of hilar and mediastinal lymph nodes; usually affects upper lobes |
| Silicosis | Clinical Intervention | No effective tx. Supportive: bronchodilators, O2, influenza/pneumococcal vaccine, +/- corticosteroids, pulm rehab |
| Smoke Inhalation | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | O2 100% non-rebreather 10-12 L/min until carboxyhemoglobin < 10% may needs meds if any heart dysrhythmias, angina, seizures, AMS, etc. |
| Smoke Inhalation | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Carbon monoxide poisoning is presumed in any pt with smoke inhalation until proven or excluded by carboxyl-hemoglobin level on ABC or VBG |
| Superior Vena Cava Syndrome | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | This is a cancer pushing on the SVC. +JVD. Characteristic features are edema (swelling due to excess fluid) of the face and arms and development of swollen collateral veins on the front of the chest wall; facial plethora |
| Tuberculosis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | cough lasting 3 weeks, pain in chest, hemoptysis, night sweats, fever, chills, wt. loss; cavitations on CXR (caseating granulomas); Pts with latent TB will not present with sx's and cannot spread infxn to others |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--|--|---|
| GASTROINTESTINAL | | |
| Achalasia | Achalasia | Decrease LES pressure: botulinum toxin injection, Nitrates, CCB's |
| Acute Hepatitis B | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | (+) HBsAg, (-) anti-HBs, anti-HBc:IgM, HBeAg +/- in acute Hep B; Anti-HBe +/- in acute Hep B |
| Alcoholic Liver Disease | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Check: total bili, serum albumin, PT/INR; ascites, hepatic encephalopathy, portal HTN leading to esophageal varices Ultrasound determines liver size & evaluate for hepatocellular carcinoma. Liver biopsy. |
| Anorectal Abscess | Clinical Intervention | I&D followed by warm water cleansing, analgesics, sitz baths, high fiber diet |
| Ascites | Clinical Intervention | sodium restriction/spironolactone; diuretic resistant ascites may need TIPS procedure. |
| Benign Neoplasm, Colon | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | Avoid diets that are low in fiber/high in red/processed meat; smoking, ETOH; Colon Cancer Screening: fecal occult blood testing annually; colonoscopy q10y from age 50-75 (individualized after 75); Flex sigmoidoscopy q5y along with fecal occult blood testing q3y. |
| Bezoar | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | a solid mass of indigestible material that accumulates in the digestive tract, sometimes causing blockage. Typically forms in the stomach or sometimes the small intestines. Can occur in children and adults. |
| Biliary Tract Obstruction | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Common bile duct dilation on ultrasound of RUQ and elevated total bilirubin |
| Boerhaave Syndrome, rupture of esophagus | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Full thickness rupture of the distal esophagus; associated with repeated, forceful vomiting (ex. bulimia) or iatrogenic perforation of the esophagus during endoscopy procedure. Retrosternal chest pain worse with deep breathing & swallowing, hematemesis, crepitus due to pneumomediastinum |
| Bowel Perforation due to Colonoscopy | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Persistent abdominal pain/distention that later progresses to peritonitis --> rebound/guarding/rigidity. There will be free air under the diaphragm (pneumoperitoneum). |
| Budd-Chiari Syndrome | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | condition caused by thrombotic or nonthrombotic obstruction of the hepatic venous outflow; characterized by hepatomegaly, ascites, and RUQ abdominal pain; rapid development of acute liver disease (including jaundice & hepatosplenomegaly) MC in women 20's-30's. |
| Celiac Disease (Sprue) | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | gluten free diet (avoid wheat, rye, barley); oats, rice, or corn are fine. Vitamin supplements; corticosteroids if refractory to conservative tx. |
| Cholangitis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | gallbladder (cystic duct) obstruction --> inflammation/infxn; RUQ pain continuous in duration; Fever, enlarged palpable gallbladder (Murphey's sign); (+) Boas sign |
| Choledocholithiasis | Applying Basic Concepts | gallstones in the common bile duct; complications include acute pancreatitis and acute cholangitis |
| Choledocholithiasis | Clinical Intervention | ERCP often diagnostic and therapeutic |
| Cholelithiasis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | RF's: 5 F's (fat, fair, female, forty, fertile); complications include choledocholithiasis, acute cholangitis, and acute cholecystitis |
| Chronic Hepatitis | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | cirrhosis that leads to hepatic encephalopathy, varices, ascites, edema |
| Chronic Hepatitis C | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | Pts at risk for hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)- screen via serum alpha-fetoprotein & ultrasound |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Cirrhosis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Tx encephalopathy with lactulose Tx ascites with sodium restriction/spironolactone Tx pruritus with cholestyramine |
| Colon Cancer | Applying Basic Concepts | 3rd MCC of cancer-related deaths in the US; Patho: progression of adenomatous polyp into malignancy (adenocarcinoma) usually occurs within 10-20 years. MC site of metastatic spread is the liver (also lungs and lymph nodes). RFs: genetics (ex. familial adenomatous polyposis), age > 50 YO, UC > Crohn's; diet (low fiber; high in red meats/processed meats); smoking, ETOH, African Americans. |
| Constipation | Clinical Intervention | Fiber: MOA = retains H ₂ O & improves GI transit; Bulk Forming Laxatives: (psyllium, methylcellulose, polycarbophil, wheat dextran) MOA = absorbs H ₂ O & increases fecal mass. Most physiologic and effect approach to constipation. SE = flatulence, bloating Osmotic Laxatives: (polyethylene glycol/Miralax) MOA = causes H ₂ O retention in stool OR Lactulose; SE = bloating, flatulence. Also used in hepatic encephalopathy Sorbitol: SE = bloating, flatulence Saline Laxatives: (milk of magnesia, magnesium citrate) SE = Hypermagnesemia (esp in pts with chronic renal dz) Stimulant Laxatives: (bisacodyl, senna) MOA = directly irritate gut wall OR cisapride, tegaserod- MOA = stimulates peristalsis |
| Diffuse Esophageal Spasm | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | stabbing chest pain that is worse with hot or cold foods/liquids; dysphagia |
| Diverticular Disease | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Test of Choice = CT scan |
| Diverticulitis | Clinical Intervention | NPO and IV Abx (Ciprofloxacin or Bactrim + Metronidazole); clear liquid diet/high fiber diet, fiber supplements; surgery if complications such as abscess or perforation |
| Duodenal Peptic Ulcer | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. H. pylori eradication: triple therapy- Clarithromycin + Amoxicillin + PPI; Metronidazole if PCN allergic. 2. H. pylori negative: OTC antacids, H ₂ blockers, PPI's, Misoprostol, Bismuth Compounds, Sucralfate |
| Erosive Gastritis | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Hx of H.pylori, NSAIDs/Aspirin, Acute stress, heavy alcohol consumption, reflux, medications, radiation, trauma, corrosives, etc. May be asx +/- epigastric pain, N/V, anorexia +/- upper GI bleed (hematemesis, melena) but bleeding is typically minimal. |
| Esophageal Cancer | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Hx of tobacco/ETOH use, exposure to noxious stimuli; Adenocarcinoma is a complication of GERD leading to Barrett's; dysphagia to solids --> fluids, odynophagia, wt. loss, chest pain |
| Esophageal Cancer | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Dx via upper endoscopy with biopsy Hypercalcemia assoc. with squamous |
| Esophageal Cancer | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | Avoid ETOH, tobacco, and other irritating things. Get Gardasil to protect vs. HPV |
| Esophageal Ring | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Barium esophagram = diagnostic test of choice |
| Esophageal Varices | Clinical Intervention | To decrease portal HTN, we use a BB. Use Octreotide (or somatostatin or terlipressin) and balloon tamponade followed by cyanoacrylate injection, transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt (TIPS) placement, or surgery. |
| Esophagus Perforation | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | May present with hematemesis, tachycardia, difficulty breathing; can be a complication of procedures (ex. EGD) |
| Familial Adenomatous Polyposis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | High incidence of cancer; annual colonoscopies starting @ age 10-12 with flex sig. Prophylactic colectomy best for survival. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Fatty Liver | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Often asx; usually associated with metabolic syndrome; often found w/ elevated liver aminotransferases or when hepatic steatosis was detected incidentally on abdominal imaging |
| Food Poisoning, Vibrio Cholerae | Applying Basic Concepts | Toxin activates enzyme in small intestine leading to hypersecretion of water and chloride; leads to severe diarrhea/dehydration; Gram (-) rod transmitted via contaminated food & water. Outbreaks associated with poor sanitation & overcrowding (esp. abroad). |
| Foreign Body Mouth/Esophagus/Stomach | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | usually in kids 6 months-3 years old. Sudden dysphagia; plain film x-ray helpful if metal |
| Foreign Body, Stomach | Clinical Intervention | Depends on what it is. Button battery in a child requires endoscopy as it will burn. Coins pass on their own. Confirm it's not airway compromising. |
| G6PD Deficiency | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | X-linked recessive trait; affects primarily African-American males; most pts asx until times of oxidative stress (ex. infxns, fava beans, sulfa drugs); episodic acute hemolytic anemia- back or abdominal pain, jaundice, dark urine, splenomegaly |
| Gastric Adenocarcinoma | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Labs show microcytic anemia consistent with bleeding; elevated LFT's if METS to liver; Endoscopy to dx via biopsy. |
| Gastrointestinal Hemorrhage | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Nasogastric lavage; stool OB, type and cross for possible transfusion and look at clotting studies |
| Gastroparesis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Delayed gastric emptying, yet no mechanical obstruction; N/V, early satiety, belching, bloating, and/or upper abdominal pain; Often seen in DM. |
| Giardiasis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Metronidazole/tinidazole & nitazoxamide; Albendazole or Mebendazole are also options |
| Hemorrhoid | Clinical Intervention | 1. Conservative: high-fiber diet, increase fluids. Warm Sitz baths & topical rectal corticosteroids 2. If failed conservative management, debilitating pain, strangulation, or irreducible: procedures include rubber band ligation (MC), sclerotherapy, or infrared coagulation. 3. Hemorrhoidectomy: for all stage IV or those not responsive to above treatments. |
| Hepatitis A | Clinical Intervention | self-limiting (symptomatic tx); usually recover within weeks. |
| Hepatitis A | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | Post-exposure prophylaxis for close contacts = HAV immune globulin Pre-exposure prophylaxis: Hep A vaccine may be given to population @ high risk |
| Hepatitis B | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | Hep B vaccine given at 0, 1, & 6 months. CI if allergic to Baker's yeast. |
| Hepatitis C | Applying Basic Concepts | inflammation --> scarring --> fibrosis --> death Transmission via Parenteral (IV drug use, blood transfusions); 80% of pts develop chronic infxn |
| Hepatitis C | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | HCV RNA is more sensitive than HCV antibody. Anti-HCV becomes (+) in 6 weeks. It does not imply recovery, because it may become (-) after recovery Acute HCV: (+) HCV RNA; +/- Anti-HCV Resolved HCV: (-) HCV RNA; +/- Anti-HCV Chronic HCV: (+) HCV RNA; (+) Anti-HCV |
| Hirschsprung Disease | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Anorectal Manometry: initial screening test 2. Contrast enema: transition zone (caliber change) b/w affected/unaffected bowel 3. Abdominal radiographs: decreased/absence of air in rectum & dilated bowel loops. 4. Rectal Biopsy = Definitive |
| Hypercalcemia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | IV saline --> Furosemide = 1st line; calcitonin, bisphosphonates in severe cases (IV pamidronate) |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Ileus | Clinical Intervention | Needs NPO and have NG tube placed; electrolyte/fluid replacement; tx underlying cause |
| Indirect Inguinal Hernia | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | protrudes at internal inguinal ring; origin of the sac is lateral to the inferior epigastric artery; follows testicle tract into scrotum; often congenital due to patent process vaginalis; MC overall type in men and woman; R-sided more common |
| Infectious Diarrhea | Applying Basic Concepts | 1. Noninvasive (Enterotoxin) Infectious Diarrhea: vomiting, watery voluminous stools (involves small intestine); no fecal WBC's or blood (ex. Staph aureus, Bacillus cereus, vibrio cholerae, Enterotoxigenic E. coli, C. dif) 2. Invasive Infectious Diarrhea: increased fever, (+) blood & fecal WBC's, not a voluminous (large intestine); mucus; Do not give antimotility drugs (ex. Campylobacter, Shigella, Salmonella, Yersinia, Enterohemorrhagic E. coli) |
| Inflammatory Bowel Disease | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Amino salicylates (sulfasalazine, mesalamine) --> corticosteroids for acute flares --> immune modifying agents --> anti-TNF agents |
| Inguinal Hernia | Applying Basic Concepts | Protrusion of the contents of the abdominal cavity through the inguinal canal. Indirect & direct are determined by their relation to the inferior epigastric vessels. |
| Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) | Applying Basic Concepts | abnormal motility: chemical imbalance in gut (serotonin, acetylcholine); chronic, functional idiopathic disorder with no organic cause. Onset MC in late teens/early 20's; MC in women. |
| Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) | Clinical Intervention | Lifestyle mods: smoking cessation, low fat/unprocessed foods. Avoid beverages with sorbitol or fructose (ex. apples, raisins); avoid cruciferous vegetables. Sleep/regular exercise. Diarrhea: Anticholinergics/spasm (ex. Dicyclomine); antidiarrheal (ex. Loperamide) Constipation: Prokinetic, bulk-forming laxatives, saline or osmotic laxative. Lubiprostone TCA (Amitriptyline) or SSRI for intractable pain. |
| Jaundice | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | If no pain, this is cancer until proven otherwise. They need imaging. Consider Gilbert Syndrome (benign prognosis) and neonatal jaundice. Phototherapy is the most commonly used intervention to tx and prevent severe hyperbilirubinemia. |
| Liver Cirrhosis | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | ETOH = MCC in the US. Chronic viral hepatitis (esp. HCV), Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease, Hemochromatosis, etc. General sx's: fatigue, weakness, wt. loss, muscle cramps; PE: ascites, hepatosplenomegaly, gynecomastia, spider angioma, caput medusa, muscle wasting, jaundice; hepatic encephalopathy, asterixis; esophageal varices, spontaneous bacterial peritonitis |
| Liver Cirrhosis | Applying Basic Concepts | ETOH = MCC in the US. Chronic viral hepatitis (esp. HCV), Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease, Hemochromatosis, etc. |
| Malabsorption Syndrome | Clinical Intervention | gluten free diet if due to Celiac Disease; chronic diarrhea due to proximal small bowel bacterial overgrowth is tx'ed with oral broad-spectrum abx (ex. Metronidazole); Rifaximin effective in adults. Malabsorption secondary to short gut needs to be tx'ed aggressively. Children with chronic diarrhea secondary to bile acid malabsorption: use of cholestyramine to bind bile acids may help reduce duration and severity of diarrhea. Any loss of pancreatic enzymes can be replaced with oral supplements. Can try an elimination diet, avoiding offending food antigens if allergic. May refer children to pediatric gastroenterologist. |
| Malnutrition | Clinical Intervention | If due to anorexia nervosa: 1. hospitalization required for <75% expected body weight or pts who have medical complications; 2. Cognitive behavioral therapy, supervised meals, weight monitoring; 3. if depressed: SSRI's; atypical antipsychotics |
| Megacolon (Hirschsprungs) | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | constipated from birth; meconium ileus; sensation that they have to have a BM (tenesmus) |
| Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Prompt discontinuation of drug is most important tx. Supportive care: cooling blankets for fever, ventilator support if needed, IV fluids; Dopamine agonists: Bromocriptine or Amantadine Dantrolene: skeletal muscle relaxer for muscle rigidity, fever. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Newborn, Jaundice | Clinical Intervention | 1. Phototherapy when bili>15 or if levels fail to decrease 2. Exchange transfusion: used in severe cases, ABO incompatibility, RH isoimmunization & hemolysis (ex. 1st 24 hrs of life) |
| Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | elevated ALT/AST; hepatic steatosis often incidentally detected on abdominal imaging (ex. ultrasound) obesity, DM, & hypertriglyceridemia |
| OD- Ethylene Glycol | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Block alcohol dehydrogenase with ethanol or fomepizole |
| Organophosphate Poisoning | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Atropine and oxime therapy (typically Pralidoxime) |
| Paralytic Ileus | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | aka Post-op ileus; No bowel sounds and no flatus; No BM |
| Peptic Ulcer Disease | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | OTC antacids --> then H2RI's --> then PPI's; if due to H. pylori: triple abx therapy |
| Pneumoperitoneum | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Something perforated (usually appendix, diverticulum, or peptic ulcer); Most sensitive test is free air under diaphragm. |
| Portal Hypertension | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | MCC = cirrhosis; Hx: jaundice, hx of blood transfusions of IV drug use, pruritus, Fm hx of hereditary liver disease (hemochromatosis, Wilson's dz), hx of ETOH, high-risk sexual behavior, NASH; assess RF for UGI bleed: PUD, ETOH, NSAIDs, vomiting recently PE: check BP, look for signs of caput medusa, hemorrhoids, shifting dullness/fluid wave, spider angiomas, asterixis, splenomegaly, pallor, venous hum, check stool |
| Post Gastric Surgery Syndrome | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | Initiate post-gastrectomy diet: high in protein; low in carbs/concentrated sweets; 5-6 small meals, with limited fluid intake during meals. Monitor for complications including anemia as a result of Vit B12 or iron malabsorption and osteoporosis. May need Vit B12 shots monthly/oral iron and calcium supplements |
| Pseudomembranous Colitis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | copious watery stools, sometimes mucus or blood, after recent abx use; lower abdominal pain/cramps, low-grade fever, nausea, anorexia |
| Pseudomembranous Colitis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Mild Disease: 1st line is Metronidazole; 2nd line is PO Vanc Severe Disease: 1st line is PO Vanc |
| Short Bowel Syndrome | Clinical Intervention | Often initially fed by TPN to prevent malnutrition +/- concurrently with enteral nutrition; fluid and electrolyte replacement; provide frequent small meals and slowly advance the diet as tolerated |
| Small Bowel Obstruction | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | MCC = post-surgical adhesions; 2nd MC = incarcerated hernias PE: abdominal distention; hyperactive bowel sounds early --> hypoactive bowel sounds later. |
| Small Bowel Obstruction | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Abdominal Radiograph: air fluid levels in step ladder pattern, dilated bowel loops. Minimal gas in colon if complete obstruction. |
| Small Bowel Obstruction | Clinical Intervention | Requires IV fluids and NGT suction & NPO; if strangulated: surgical intervention |
| Steatohepatitis | Clinical Intervention | reduce total cholesterol, maintain healthy weight, control DM, stop/cut back on ETOH, exercise regularly. Ensure pt. is not on any medications that can further worsen liver function. |
| Ulcerative Colitis | Clinical Intervention | Flex sig = test of choice in acute disease; surgery is curative |
| Ulcerative Colitis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | Smoking decreases risk for UC; surgery is curative; colonoscopy and barium enema contraindicated in acute disease; associated with Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Vitamin B12 Deficiency | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Neuro sx: paresthesias, gait abnormalities, memory loss, dementia; GI: anorexia, diarrhea; glossitis; Macrocytic anemia (increased MCV) with hypersegmented neutrophils |
| Vitamin B12 Deficiency | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | IM or PO B12; IM B12 for pernicious anemia |
| Vitamin Deficiency, Riboflavin | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Oral-Ocular-Genital Syndrome. Oral: lesions of mouth, magenta colored tongue, angular cheilitis, pharyngitis. Ocular: photophobia, corneal lesions. Genital: scrotal dermatitis |
| Vitamin K Deficiency | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Prolonged PT (INR>3.5), Normal fibrinogen, Normal platelets |
| Wilson Disease | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Decreased Ceruloplasmin, Increased urinary copper excretion |
| Zollinger-Ellison Syndrome | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased fasting gastrin level = best screening test 2. (+) secretin test 3. Increased basal acid output; increased chromogranin A 4. Somatostatin Receptor Scintigraphy helpful in localizing tumor |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| MUSCULOSKELETAL | | |
| Acute Compartment Syndrome | Clinical Intervention | Emergent fasciotomy |
| Acute Compartment Syndrome | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | MC after fracture of long bones, crush injuries, tight casts/pressure dressings, thermal burns; pain out of proportion to injury (persistent/deep/burning); Increased compartmental pressure > 30-45 mm Hg |
| Adhesive Capsulitis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | aka Frozen Shoulder Syndrome: a painful/stiff shoulder. Restriction of both active & passive ROM that occurs in the absence of a known intrinsic shoulder disorder; pain (dull/aching) w/ shoulder movement; nagging pain @ night with inability to sleep on affected side; esp. unable to externally rotate. Later on, the pain is less pronounced, but pt unable to reach over their head, to their side, or scratch their back or put on a coat. |
| Amputated Digit | Clinical Intervention | When there is a possibility for replantation, the amputated portion of the upper extremity should be wrapped in gauze and soaked in sterilized isotonic saline to prevent it from drying. In addition, it should be placed in a plastic bag that is immersed in ice water for cooling. An amputated extremity should never be placed directly in ice water because the infiltration of fluid into the part may jeopardize the microcirculation |
| Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) injury | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | MOI: non-contact pivoting injury (deceleration, hyperextension, internal rotation); associated with a "pop & swelling --> hemarthrosis" +/- knee buckling, inability to bear weight. Does not actively extend knee PE: 1. ACL Laxity: Lachman's Test = most sensitive; pivot shift test; anterior drawer test (least reliable); 2. +/- Segund Fx = pathognomonic for ACL tear |
| Basilar Skull Fracture | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | a linear fx @ the base of the skull; associated with a dural tear; CSF otorrhea; bruising over mastoid ("Battle Sign"); do a Glasgow Coma Score, CT |
| Boxer's Fracture | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Fx @ neck of 5th metacarpal; MOI: punching with a clenched fist. If @ the base, look for associated carpal injuries; always check for bite wounds--> if present, tx with abx (Augmentin) |
| Cancer, bone | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Osteosarcoma = MC bone malignancy > Multiple Myeloma > Chondrosarcoma |
| Cervical Spine Injury | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | C1- Jefferson (Burst) Fx: vertical compression; atlas C2- Hangman's Fx: Hyperextension then flexion; axis pedicle |
| Cervical Spondylosis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | chronic degenerative condition; progresses with age; compression of the cervical nerve roots leads to radicular pain and/or motor weakness |
| Colles Fracture | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | A distal radius fx with dorsal angulation; "dinner fork" deformity |
| Congenital Talipes Equinovarus | Clinical Intervention | Ponseti method of serial manipulation and casting |
| Contusion, Fingernail | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | When should you perform an x-ray of a finger with a subungual hematoma? When hematoma is > 50% of nail to evaluate for phalanx fracture |
| Dermatomyositis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Elevated creatine phosphokinase and Increased ESR; Increased incidence of malignancy (+) Anti-Mi-2 Ab is specific for dermatomyositis |
| Dermatomyositis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | High-dose corticosteroids = 1st line +/- Methotrexate, Azathioprine, IV immunoglobulin |
| Distal Radius Fracture | Clinical Intervention | sugar tong splint |
| Dupuytren Contracture | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | genetic predisposition, ETOH abuse, DM, MOI: contractures of the palmar fascia due to nodules/cords --> fixed flexion deformity @ MCP |
| Effusion, joint, knee | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Bulge sign, ballottement, patellar tap tests |
| Finger Fracture | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Boxer's Fx: @ neck of 5th metacarpal Bennett Fx: intraarticular fx through the base of the 1st metacarpal (MCP) bone Rolando's Fx: comminuted Bennett's fx |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|---|--|--|
| Fracture, hand, 4th metacarpal | Clinical Intervention | If Boxer's Fx (fx at neck of 5th +/- 4th metacarpal --> ulnar gutter splint any fracture > 25-30 degrees angulation should be reduced. ORIF if it remains >40 degrees angulated |
| Galeazzi Fracture | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | mid-distal radial shaft fx with dislocation of DRUJ |
| Gout | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Attacks secondary to purine-rich foods (alcohol, liver, seafood, yeast); meds can cause it (diuretics-thiazides, loops; ACEI, niacin, pyrazinamide, ASA, & ARBS -except Losartan which actually decreases uric acid levels) |
| Gouty Arthropathy | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Gout is a problem with the metabolism of what type of molecule? Purine In gout, what compound precipitates into the synovial fluid? Sodium urate |
| Herniated Lumbar Disc | Clinical Intervention | short period of rest; anti-inflammatories, warm moist heat; resume activities as early as the patient can tolerate; exercise (ex. swimming) and PT help promote recovery; muscle relaxants may offer symptomatic relief of acute muscle spasms in early stages; injections; transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation; |
| Herniation H&P | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | may be gradual or sudden; pain radiating into a distal extremity |
| Joint Dislocation, Ankle | Clinical Intervention | closed reduction + posterior splint +/- ORIF in severe cases |
| Joint Dislocation, Shoulder | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | X-ray: axillary & "Y" view. Humeral head inferior/anterior to the glenoid fossa. Must rule out axillary nerve injury (pinprick sensation over the deltoid) |
| Joint Dislocation, Shoulder (Anterior) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | MOI: blow to an abducted, externally rotated arm that's extended; Anterior dislocation = MC type of shoulder dislocation |
| Joint Injury, Knee (meniscus) | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Describe the typical mechanism and history of a pt with a meniscus injury. Hx: rotational force of femur on tibia; now joint line pain with locking & giving way. |
| Lateral Epicondylitis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | The tendinous insertion of what muscle is involved in lateral epicondylitis? Extensor Carpi Radialis Brevis |
| Legg-Calve-Perthes Disease | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | idiopathic avascular necrosis of the femoral head |
| Legg-Calve-Perthes Disease | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | MC in children 4-10 YO, boys; low incidence in African Americans Painless limping x weeks (worse with continued use); may have intermittent hip/thigh/groin pain; Loss of abduction & internal rotation |
| Lumbar Spondylosis with myelopathy | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Radiographs, CT scans, and MRIs are used only in the event of complications. Bone density scan (DEXA) is used. Ensure that no osteophytes are in the area used for density assessment for spinal studies. |
| Marfan Syndrome | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | MVP, aortic root dilation --> aortic regurg, aortic dissection, & aortic aneurysms; Tall stature; long/lanky fingers, arms, & legs; pectus carinatum ("pigeon chest"); joint laxity; ectopia lentis (malposition or dislocation of the lens in the eyes); myopia |
| Medial Collateral Ligament (MCL) Injury | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | MOI: direct blow to outside of the knee; femoral attachment is to medial epicondyle; tibial attachments are semimembranosus muscle and posteromedial tibia |
| Meralgia Paresthetica | Clinical Intervention | wt. loss, loose clothing, focal nerve block at inguinal ligament with combo of lidocaine + corticosteroids; surgical decompression |
| Monteggia Fracture | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Proximal ulnar shaft fx with an anterior radial head dislocation |
| Myositis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | High-dose corticosteroids = 1st line +/- Methotrexate, Azathioprine, IV immunoglobulin |
| Osteoarthritis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Acetaminophen- preferred initial tx for OA in elderly with bleed risk & mild-mod disease --> NSAIDs more effective Intraarticular corticosteroid injections, sodium hyaluronate, glucosamine, & chondroitin |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Osteomyelitis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | inflammation/infection of bone; MC <20 YO & > 50 YO RF's: sickle cell disease, DM, immunocompromised, URI in kids Acute: MC in children- hip joint MC affected; refuse to use extremity/bear weight Chronic: MC in adults secondary to open injury/bone surrounding soft tissue (trauma/recent surgery) |
| Osteomyelitis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | inflammation/infxn of bone; MC <20 YO & >50 YO RF's: sickle cell disease, DM, immunocompromised, URI in kids; Acute Osteomyelitis: MC in children (Staph aureus MC); Salmonella = MC/ pathognomonic for sickle cell dz.; Hip=MC joint in children; Chronic Osteomyelitis: MC in adults secondary to open injury/bone surrounding soft tissue (trauma/recent surgery); S. aureus=MC |
| Osteoporosis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | What is the first line pharm tx for osteoporosis? Bisphosphonates ("-dronate"- ex. Alendronate) What are some other 2nd line txs? May also try HRT (estrogen +/- progesterone) and selective estrogen receptor modulators (SERMS) |
| Osteoporosis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Adequate Vit D & exercise (weight lifting, high impact). Periodic height & bone mass measurements. |
| Peroneal Nerve Injury | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | loss of sensation to lateral leg with peroneal nerve damage |
| Pes anserine bursitis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | inflammation of the bursa located between the shinbone (tibia) and the 3 tendons of the hamstring muscles @ the inside of the knee ~2-3 inches below joint; pain usually occurs when arising from seated position, @ night, or with ascending/ descending stairs; local swelling |
| Plantar Fasciitis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Describe the most common Hx and PE findings for pts with plantar fasciitis. Gradual onset of heel pain with first few steps in AM and at night |
| Polymyalgia Rheumatica | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | pain/stiffness of the proximal joints in pts > 50 YO; bilateral proximal joint aching/ stiffness (morning stiffness > 30 mins of the pelvic, neck, & shoulder girdle) --> difficulty combing hair, putting on coat, getting out of chair; No severe muscle weakness Closely related to Giant Cell Arteritis |
| Polymyalgia Rheumatica | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Clinical Dx: pain and stiffness in neck and bilateral shoulder & pelvic girdle Labs: markedly elevated ESR (> 50 mm/hr); +/- increased platelets (acute phase reactants) |
| Polymyalgia Rheumatica | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Low-dose corticosteroids (10-20 mg/day); NSAIDs; Methotrexate |
| Polymyositis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | High-dose corticosteroids = 1st line +/- Methotrexate, Azathioprine, IV immunoglobulin |
| Posterior Tibial Tendon Dysfunction | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | player of high-impact sports; pain and swelling to medial foot and ankle; flattened arch; "too many toes sign" |
| Proximal Humerus Fracture | Clinical Intervention | Sling/Swathe + ortho follow-up in 24-48 hrs Check deltoid sensation (to rule out brachial plexus or axillary nerve injuries) |
| Reiter's Syndrome | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | NSAIDs = mainstay of tx. If no response, Methotrexate --> Sulfasalazine, steroids. Anti-TNF agents (Etanercept, Infliximab) Abx during precipitating disease decreases incidence. |
| Rhabdomyolysis | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | MC associated with immobility, crush injuries, overexertion, seizures, burns; meds (statins, niacin, fibrates); any hx of dark urine? Any signs of acute kidney injury? |
| Rhabdomyolysis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Labs: Increased CPK > 20,000, Increased LDH, Increased ALT; Hyperkalemia, Hypocalcemia UA: dark urine that is + for heme but negative for blood (myoglobinuria) EKG: look for signs of hyperkalemia |
| Rhabdomyolysis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | IV saline hydration, Mannitol, Bicarbonate, Calcium gluconate |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--|--|---|
| Rheumatoid Arthritis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | chronic inflammatory disease with persistent symmetric polyarthritis, bone erosion, cartilage destruction & joint structure loss (due to destruction by pannus), T-cell mediated. Increased Risk: females, smoking. |
| Rheumatoid Arthritis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | small joint stiffness (MCP, wrist, PIP, knee, MTP, shoulder, ankle) worse with rest. Morning joint stiffness > 60 min after initiating movement, improves later in the day. Symmetric arthritis: swollen, tender, erythematous, "boggy" joint; Boutonniere deformity, swan neck deformity, ulnar deviation @ MCP joint. |
| Rheumatoid Arthritis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Methotrexate = 1st line; 2. NSAIDs = 1st line for pain control (Corticosteroids 2nd line if no relief with NSAIDs) |
| Rotator Cuff Syndrome | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | MOI: chronic erosion +/- trauma. SITS (supraspinatus, infraspinatus, teres minor, subscapularis). Common in athletes or laborers performing repetitive overhead movements. Supraspinatus MC. |
| Scleroderma | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Tight, shiny, thickened skin Limited: "CREST" syndrome- calcinosis cutis, Raynaud's, Esophageal motility disorder, Sclerodactyly, Telangiectasia; (+) Anti-Centromere Ab Diffuse: involves trunk and proximal extremities; (+) Anti-SCL-70 Ab |
| Sjogren Syndrome | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Primary (occurs alone) vs. Secondary (assoc. with other autoimmune disorders- SLE, RA, etc.) xerostomia (dry mouth); keratoconjunctivitis sicca (dry eyes); parotid gland enlargement; thyroid gland dysfunction common |
| Slipped Capital Femoral Epiphysis (SCFE) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Describe the MC demographics and presentation of a pt. with SCFE. 13 YO African-American athletic obese male with insidious hip/thigh/knee pain and a limp; external rotation of affected leg |
| Slipped Capital Femoral Epiphysis (SCFE) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | What is the best view to assess SCFE and what is usually seen? Frog Leg Lateral Pelvis or Lateral Hip; posterior and medial displacement of epiphysis |
| Slipped Capital Femoral Epiphysis (SCFE) | Clinical Intervention | Non-weight bearing with crutches --> ORIF (increased risk of AVN) |
| Smith Fracture | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | A distal radius fx with ventral angulation |
| Spinal Stenosis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | seen > 60 YO; worse with extension (prolonged standing/walking); relieved with flexion (sitting/walking uphill); Lumbar flexion will increase canal volume |
| Sprain of Shoulder/Rotator Cuff | Clinical Intervention | conservative Tx; arthroscopic subacromial decompression if resistant |
| Synovial Cyst | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | MC in lumbar region of spine; +/- back/leg pain that's better when sitting/worse when standing/walking; usually associated with age-related degeneration (65+YO) |
| Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | smith and double-sided DNA (dsDNA) antibodies and depressed levels of serum complement are markers for progression |
| Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | skin: sun protection, Hydroxychloroquine (for lesions); Arthritis: NSAIDs or acetaminophen +/- pulse-dose Corticosteroids; cytotoxic drugs (Methotrexate, Cyclophosphamide) |
| Torticollis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Can be congenital (local trauma to soft tissues of the neck during delivery) or acquired (blunt trauma to head/neck, sleeping in awkward position, medications, infxns, etc.) |
| Torticollis | Clinical Intervention | Conservative Therapy |
| Transient Synovitis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | MC cause of acute hip pain in children aged 3-10 YO. Causes arthralgia and arthritis secondary to a transient inflammation of the synovium of the hip. Unilateral hip or groin pain = MC sx; Non-traumatic. +/- limp; after recent URI, pharyngitis, bronchitis or otitis media. |
| Traumatic Soft Tissue Injury | Clinical Intervention | RICE and NSAIDS |
| Vertebra Fracture (Compression) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | fall mechanism or other trauma, esp. in older adults; tenderness with deep palpation of spinous process (pain/point tenderness); x-ray reveals > 20% loss of height in vertebral body |
| Wound, open, hand | Clinical Intervention | thoroughly irrigate; check for bite wounds --> abx; may leave open depending on the location/risk of inxn; Tetanus shot |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| EENT | | |
| Acoustic Neuroma | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | MRI, CT scan; Audiology Unilateral sensorineural hearing loss is an acoustic neuroma until proven otherwise. |
| Acute Narrow Angle-Closure Glaucoma | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Increased IOP --> optic nerve damage --> decreased visual acuity. Optho emergency! Decreased drainage of aqueous humor via trabecular meshwork & canal of schlemm in pts with preexisting narrow angle or large lens- elderly, hyperopes, & Asians. Leading cause of preventable blindness in the US. Precipitating factors: mydriasis (pupillary dilation further closes the angle), dim lights, sympathomimetics, & anticholinergics. |
| Acute Narrow Angle-Closure Glaucoma | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Acetazolamide = 1st line! Decreases IOP by decreasing aqueous humor production. Topical Beta agonists (Timolol) reduces IOP without affecting visual acuity. Miotics/cholinergics (Pilocarpine, carbachol) open the angle |
| Acute Otitis Media | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | infxn of middle ear, temporal bone, & mastoid air cells. MC preceded by viral URI; peak age is 16-18 months 4 MC organisms: S. pneumo (MC), H. flu, M. cat, Strep pyogenes (GABHS) RF's: ET dysfunction, young (ET is wider, shorter, & more horizontal), day care, pacifier/bottle use, parenteral smoking, not being breastfed |
| Acute Otitis Media | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | fever, otalgia, ear pain, ear tugging in infants, conductive hearing loss, stuffiness If TM perforation --> rapid relief of pain + otorrhea |
| Acute Otitis Media | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Amoxicillin 80-90 mg/kg/day (high-dose) = TOC* x 10-14 days; Cefixime in children 2nd line = Augmentin or Cefaclor PCN allergic --> Erythromycin-Sulfisoxazole, Azithromycin, TMP-SMX (Bactrim) |
| Acute Sinusitis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. mainly clinical (sxs should be present > 1 week) 2. CT scan w/o contrast = diagnostic test of choice 3. Sinus radiographs --> order Water's view |
| Acute Sinusitis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Symptomatic therapy: decongestants, antihistamines, mucolytics, intranasal corticosteroids, analgesics, nasal lavage. Indicated if sxs < 7 days or used as adjunctive tx. 2. Abx:(sxs should be present for 10-14 days or earlier if facial swelling, febrile, etc.)- Amoxicillin = DOC x 10-14 days; 2nd line: Doxycycline, TMP-SMX; FQ or Amox/clav used if recent abx use/refractory cases. |
| Acute Tonsillitis | Clinical Intervention | 1. Symptomatic: fluids, warm saline gargles, topical anesthetics, lozenges, NSAIDs. 2. Abx if S. pyogenes: PCN, amoxicillin. PCN allergy: erythromycin or clindamycin |
| Age-related Macular Degeneration | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | RF's: age > 50 YO, caucasians, females, smokers. Amsler grid at home to monitor stability. Zing, Vitamin A, C, & E may slow progression. |
| Allergic Rhinitis | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | associated with nasal polyps & usually worse in mornings; sneezing, nasal congestion/itching, clear rhinorrhea; pale/violaceous, boggy turbinates, nasal polyps with cobblestoning of mucosa of the conjunctiva |
| Amaurosis Fugax | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | temporary monocular (unilateral) vision loss (lasting minutes) with complete recovery; due to retinal emboli or ischemia. Temporary "curtain" that resolves ("lifts up") usually within 1 hr. |
| Amblyopia | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | hx of "lazy eye"/reduced vision in one eye caused by abnormal visual development early in life. The weaker eye often wanders inward or outward. Generally develops from birth up to age 7 years. Rarely affects both eyes. Ask if any hx of corrective lenses, contacts, or patching therapy; strabismus; ask about hx of premature birth, small size at birth, family hx of lazy eye, or any developmental disabilities. |
| Angular Cheilitis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Fissures at the side of the mouth. |
| Bacterial Conjunctivitis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Purulent discharge, lid crusting; usually no visual changes (mild pain); absence of ciliary injection |
| Bitemporal Hemianopsia | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Lesion of the optic chiasm |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Blepharitis | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Common in pts with Down syndrome & eczema. Inflammation of both eyelids. 1. Anterior: involves skin & base of the eyelashes 2. Posterior: Meibomian gland dysfunction (associated with rosacea & allergic dermatitis) |
| Central Retinal Artery Occlusion | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | acute, sudden monocular vision loss, often preceded by Amaurosis Fugax. Pale retina with cherry-red macula (red spot); "box car" appearance of retinal vessels; MC in 50-80YO with atherosclerotic disease |
| Cerumen Impaction | Clinical Intervention | 1. Flush ear if no evidence of TM perforation. 2. Serum softening: hydrogen peroxide 3%, carbamide peroxide (Debrox), curette removal of cerumen, suction |
| Chemical Burns | Clinical Intervention | Ophtho Emergency! Every minute counts. 1.Irrigation must be started ASAP (greatest impact on prognosis). LR or Normal saline x 30 min or at least 2 L of fluids. 2. Check pH & visual acuity after irrigation. Irrigate until eye pH is 7.0-7.3; 3. Abx: Moxifloxacin, 0.25% Atropine drops. Ophtho follow-up. |
| Cholesteatoma | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | abnormal keratinized collection of desquamated squamous epithelium --> mastoid bony erosion. MC due to ET dysfunction --> conductive hearing loss. |
| Joint Dislocation, Shoulder | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | X-ray: axillary & "Y" view. Humeral head inferior/anterior to the glenoid fossa. Must rule out axillary nerve injury (pinprick sensation over the deltoid) |
| Cholesteatoma | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Painless otorrhea (brown/yellow discharge with strong odor) +/- develop vertigo/dizziness granulation tissue (cellular debris) +/- perforated TM on otoscope peripheral vertigo, conductive hearing loss |
| Color Blindness | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | usually inherited-ask about any fm hx; ask about difficulty distinguishing between shades of red and green. Less commonly people cannot distinguish between shades of blue and yellow. Children may have difficulty interpreting color-coded learning materials. Ask about any hx of diseases (ex. sickle cell, DM, macular degeneration, Alzheimer's, MS, etc.); Medication hx: chemical exposure Ishihara test is a color perception test for red-green color deficiencies; |
| Conductive Hearing Loss | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Weber: lateralizes to affected ear; Rinne: BC > AC (negative rinne) Etiologies: obstruction from foreign body or cerumen impaction (MCC); damage to ossicles (otosclerosis, cholesteatoma), mastoiditis, otitis media |
| Conjunctival Chemosis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | usually from irritation, allergies. Watery eyes, excessive tearing, itchiness, blurry or double vision, swelling/inflammation. |
| Corneal Abrasion | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | foreign body sensation, tearing, red & painful eye. On fluorescein staining: "ice rink"/linear abrasions seen especially if the foreign body is underneath the eyelid |
| Dacryocystitis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | infection of the lacrimal sac; tearing, tenderness, edema & redness to medial canthal (nasal side) of lower lid (+/- purulent) |
| Dental Caries, child | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Ask about hx of flossing, how often pt is brushing, fluorinated water, use of mouthwash, regular scheduled dentist visits. Ask about eating sugary/sweet foods/drinks. Observe the mouth for visualization of teeth erosion, gum swelling, plaque, etc. |
| Diabetic Retinopathy | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | MCC of new permanent vision loss/blindness in 25-74 YO. 1. Nonproliferative: microaneurysms --> blot & dot hemorrhages, flame-shaped hemorrhages, cotton wool spots, hard exudates, retinal vein beading (tortuous/dilated veins), closure of retinal capillaries; Not associated with vision loss 2. Proliferative: Neovascularization 3. Maculopathy: macular edema or exudates, blurred vision, central vision loss. Can occur at any stage. |
| Diabetic Retinopathy | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | DM hx, fundoscopic exam, check blood sugar/Hgba1C, etc.; ask about med compliance; maculopathy-central vision loss |
| Diphtheria | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Tonsillopharyngitis or Laryngitis = classic presentation. Pseudomembranes: friable gray/white membrane on pharynx that bleeds if scraped. Bull neck; Myocarditis, arrhythmias, or heart failure. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Diphtheria | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Clinical dx; PCR, culture to confirm. Isolate until 3 (-) pharyngeal cultures. |
| Diphtheria | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Diphtheria antitoxin (horse serum) most important + Erythromycin or Penicillin x 2 weeks. Clindamycin or Rifampin are alternatives PCN + Aminoglycoside for endocarditis |
| Diphtheria | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Prophylaxis: Erythromycin x 7-10 days or Penicillin benzathine G x 1 dose Prevention: DTaP- 5 doses: 2,4,6,15-18 mo, 4-6 yo, booster at 11-12 yo |
| Diphtheritic Pharyngitis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Corynebacterium diphtheriae (gram + rod) rare in US due to vaccination (dTAP)- given @ 2, 4, 6, 15-18 months, b/w 4-6 years, & booster at 11-12 YO. Transmission: inhalation of respiratory secretions; exotoxin induces inflammatory response. |
| Drug Toxicity, Acetaminophen | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | elevated LFT's; check APAP level @ 4 hrs to determine tx. |
| Epistaxis | Clinical Intervention | Lean forward with direct pressure to nose x 10-15 min Topical decongestants/vasoconstrictors may be used with direct pressure. Phenylephrine, Oxymetazoline (Afrin), Lidocaine, cocaine. Silver Nitrate (Cauterization)- must be able to see bleeding site Packing- consider abx w/ it (ex. Cephalexin or Clindamycin) Adjunct therapy: avoid exercise for a few days, avoid spicy foods. Bacitracin & humidifiers to help moisten nasal mucosa. Septal hematoma assoc. with loss of cartilage if hematoma not removed. |
| Epistaxis (Anterior) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Anterior MC: nasal trauma ("digital trauma"), forceful blowing, etc.; low humidity in hot environments, rhinitis, ETOH, antiplatelet therapy/meds Kiesselbach's plexus MC site of bleeding in anterior epistaxis. |
| Epistaxis (Posterior) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Posterior: HTN, atherosclerosis are MC RF's Palatine artery MC site for posterior (may cause bleeding in both nares and posterior pharynx) |
| Esotropia | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | strabismus = misalignment of the eyes: convergent strabismus- deviated inward ("cross-eyed") = esotropia. Diplopia, scotomas, or amblyopia |
| Fracture, Orbital (Maxillary) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Fxs to orbital floor as a result of trauma. Decreased visual acuity, diplopia esp. with upward gaze if there's inferior rectus muscle entrapment, orbital emphysema; eyelid swelling after blowing nose |
| Hypertensive Retinopathy | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Longstanding hx of HTN. Fundoscopic exam. Cup-to-disc ratio 0.3, <50%. Graded Criteria I-IV. I. Arterial Narrowing: abnormal light reflexes on dilated tortuous arterioles shows up as colors; copper wiring= moderate, silver wiring = severe II. AV Nicking: venous compression at the arterial-venous junction by increased arterial pressure. III. Flame shaped hemorrhages, cotton wool spots IV. Papilledema --> Malignant HTN |
| Keratitis, corneal ulcer | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | pain, photophobia, reduced vision, tearing, conjunctival erythema conjunctival injection/erythema, ciliary injection (limbic flush), corneal ulceration/ defect on slit lamp exam, purulent or watery discharge. Bacterial Keratitis: hazy cornea, ulcer, stromal abscess +/- hypopyon HSV Keratitis: dendritic lesions- branching seen with fluorescein staining |
| Larynx Cancer | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | hoarseness, dyspnea, dysphonia, aspiration, dysphagia, hemoptysis, pain inspect head, neck, & larynx |
| Larynx Cancer | Clinical Intervention | surgical resection +/- chemo/radiation |
| Leukoplakia | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | clinical: painless white patchy lesion that cannot be scraped off |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| Macular Degeneration | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Central vision loss in elderly (as well as detail and color vision), bilateral; use an Amsler grid @ home to monitor stability |
| Macular Degeneration | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | RFs: age > 50 YO, whites, females, smokers MCC of permanent legal blindness & visual loss in the elderly (> 75 YO); The macula is responsible for central vision as well as detail and color vision. 2 types: 1. Dry (atrophic); drusen spots; 2. Wet (Neovascular or exudative); new abnormal vessels |
| Malignant Neoplasm of the Mouth | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | usually associated with oral tobacco |
| Nasal Polyps | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Intranasal corticosteroids = TOC Surgical removal may be needed in some cases only if medical therapy unsuccessful |
| Neonatal Hearing Loss | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | if not identified prior to 6 months old, get delays in speech and language. Screening Newborns: auditory brain stem response (ABR)- tests CN8; Automated ABR (AABR); otoacoustic emissions (OAE's) |
| Optic Neuritis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Loss of color vision, visual field defects (ex. central scotoma/blind spot), loss of vision over a few days (usually unilateral); associated with ocular pain that is worse with eye movement. Marcus-Gunn pupil: relative afferent pupillary defect |
| Optic Neuritis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | usually a clinical dx; Swinging light test, fundoscopy; may need MRI |
| Oral Candidiasis (Thrush) | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | scrapes off; pseudohyphae or yeast buds under microscope with KOH prep; Immunosuppressed, DM, inhaled steroid use without a spacer or rinsing mouth afterwards, dentures, etc. |
| Oral Candidiasis (Thrush) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Nystatin Liquid = TOC. 2. Clotrimazole troches, oral Fluconazole |
| Oral Hairy Leukoplakia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | caused by Epstein-Barr virus (HHV4); MC in immunocompromised (HIV, post-transplant, chronic steroid use, chemo) Not considered cancerous |
| Oral Hairy Leukoplakia | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | painless, white plaque on lateral tongue borders or buccal mucosa +/- smooth or irregular "hairy" or "feathery" with prominent folds; cannot be scraped off |
| Oral Hairy Leukoplakia | Clinical Intervention | No specific tx (may spontaneously resolve). Antiretroviral tx, ablation. |
| Oral Leukoplakia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | considered pre-cancerous; It's hyperkeratosis due to chronic irritation (ex. tobacco, cig smoking, dentures, ETOH) painless white patch that cannot be scraped off |
| Oral Lichen Planus | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | increased incidence in pts with HCV infection; Lacy leukoplakia of oral mucosa aka Wickham striae |
| Oral Lichen Planus | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | local or systemic corticosteroids |
| Orbital Cellulitis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | usually secondary to sinus infxn (ethmoid MC); MC in children 7-12 YO Decreased vision, pain w/ ocular movement, proptosis, eyelid erythema & edema around orbit. |
| Orbital Cellulitis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | High resolution CT scan of orbits with IV contrast |
| Otitis Externa | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Protect ear against moisture (drying agents include isopropyl alcohol & acetic acid drops). |
| Otitis Externa | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Drying agents include isopropyl alcohol & acetic acid. Topical abx: 1. Ciprofloxacin/dexamethasone (Ofloxacin safe if an assoc. TM perf). 2. Aminoglycoside combination: Neomycin/Polytrim-B/Hydrocortisone otic (not used if TM perf suspected). Amphotericin B if fungal. |
| Parotitis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Acute viral parotitis (Mumps) can be prevented with MMR vaccine given in two doses @ age 12-15 months and 2nd dose @ age 4-6 YO |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Periorbital Cellulitis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | infection of the eyelid and periocular tissue. May have ocular pain & swelling but no visual changes and no pain with ocular movement. |
| Peritonsillar Abscess | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | dysphagia, pharyngitis, muffled "hot potato voice", difficulty handling oral secretions, trismus, uvula deviation to contralateral side, anterior cervical lymphadenopathy |
| Peritonsillar Abscess | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | CT scan = 1st line to differentiate cellulitis vs. abscess |
| Peritonsillar Abscess | Clinical Intervention | 1. Abx + aspiration or I&D; 2. Tonsillectomy indications: recurrent strep infxns, recurrent peritonsillar infxns, chronic tonsillitis |
| Peritonsillar Abscess (Quinsy) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Tonsillitis --> Cellulitis --> Abscess formation MCC by strep pyogenes (GABHS), staph aureus, polymicrobial (including anaerobes) |
| Pterygium | Clinical Intervention | observation for most, +/- artificial tears. Removal only if growth affects vision. |
| Retinal Detachment | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | 3 main types: 1. Rhegmatogenous = MC type. Retinal tear --> retinal inner sensory layer detaches from choroid plexus. MC predisposing factor = myopia & cataracts. 2. Traction: adhesions separate the retina from its base (proliferative DM retinopathy, sickle cell, trauma) 3. Exudative (serous): fluid accumulates beneath the retina--> detachment (ex. HTN, CRVO, papilledema) |
| Retinal Detachment | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | photopsia (flashing lights) with detachment --> floaters --> progressive unilateral vision loss: shadow "curtain coming down" in periphery initially --> loss of central visual field; No pain/redness. |
| Retinal Detachment | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Fundoscopy: retinal tear/detached tissue "flapping" in the vitreous humor; (+) Shafer's sign |
| Retinitis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | threatens vision by damaging the retina. Types: retinitis pigmentosa (genetic), CMV retinitis (a herpes virus) more common if immunocompromised; floaters, blurred vision, loss of central vision possible at first and eventually loss of peripheral vision; can affect color vision as well |
| Retinoblastoma | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | absent red reflex (fundus reflection) + "white pupil". Retinoblastoma is part of the DDx for cataracts. Check visual acuity, fundoscopy. Ask about family hx/any childhood malignancy in family (genetic component) |
| Sensorineural Hearing Loss | Clinical Intervention | If due to presbycusis (MCC): amplification devices; cochlear implants If unilateral sensorineural hearing loss (acoustic neuroma): MRI or CT scan |
| Sialadenitis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Bacterial infxn of the parotid or submandibular salivary glands. May be due to dehydration or chronic illness; Staph aureus = MC organism |
| Sialadenitis | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Acute pain, swelling, & erythema near the gland especially with meals; tenderness @ the duct opening (+/- pus if duct massaged). Local pain, dysphagia, trismus. May develop fever/chills if severe |
| Sialolithiasis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | MC in Wharton's duct (submandibular gland duct); Stenson's duct (parotid gland duct) Postprandial salivary gland pain & swelling |
| Sialolithiasis | Clinical Intervention | Sialogogues: lemon drops or tart hard candies; Xylitol gum; hydration; gland massage Abx: Dicloxacillin or Nafcillin + Metronidazole or Clindamycin if severe Avoid Anticholinergics Extracorporeal lithotripsy, intraoral stone removal if no response to conservative tx |
| Soft Tissue Traumatic Injury | Clinical Intervention | If contusion of the pinna or nasal fracture with septal hematoma, the blood requires drainage. |
| Strabismus | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | misalignment of the eyes (stable ocular alignment not present until age 2-3 months). Esotropia: convergent strabismus; Exotropia: divergent strabismus. Diplopia, scotomas, or amblyopia |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Streptococcal Pharyngitis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Rapid antigen detection test 2. Throat culture = definitive dx (gold standard) |
| Streptococcal Pharyngitis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Penicillin G or VK = 1st line; Amoxicillin, Amox-clavulonate 2. Macrolides if PCN allergic Other alternative: Clindamycin, Cephalosporins |
| Subconjunctival Hemorrhage | Clinical Intervention | check visual acuity, EOM, pen light, slit-lamp exam, IOP, eyelid inspection with eversion, BP; if hx of trauma, rule out ruptured globe or retrobulbar hemorrhage. Give artificial tears. |
| Superficial Keratitis | Clinical Intervention | many different kinds. Stain the eye looking for herpes (dendritic lesions) |
| Teeth Erosion | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | hygiene, flossing, mouthwash, fluoride, decrease sugary foods/drinks, dentist |
| Torus Palatines | Clinical Intervention | Refer to maxofacial surgeon for surgery if problematic |
| Tympanic Membrane Perforation | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Hx of penetrating or noise trauma, otitis media Acute ear pain, hearing loss +/- bloody otorrhea, tinnitus, vertigo |
| Tympanic Membrane Perforation | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Avoid loud music/noise trauma; wear ear plugs; May lead to cholesteatoma development. Most perforated TMs heal spontaneously. Follow-up to ensure resolution +/- surgical repair. |
| Uveitis | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Hx of systemic inflammatory diseases (suspect if recurrent)- may be associated with HLA B27 spondyloarthropies, sarcoid, etc.; Infectious CMV, toxoplasmosis, TB; Trauma usually causes anterior uveitis. PE: 1. ciliary injection (limbic flush), consensual photophobia, +/- vision changes; 2. Inflammatory cells and flare within the aqueous humor |
| Uveitis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Anterior: Topical corticosteroids vs. 2. Posterior: Systemic corticosteroids |
| Uveitis (iritis) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Anterior: inflammation of iris (iritis) or ciliary body (cyclitis). Unilateral ocular pain/redness/photophobia; excessive tearing (no discharge). Usually occurs after blunt trauma Posterior: choroid inflammation; blurred/decreased vision, floaters, absent sx's of anterior involvement; no pain |
| Vasomotor Rhinitis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Oral antihistamines, decongestants, intranasal steroids, mast cell stabilizers, anticholinergics |
| Viral Conjunctivitis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | MC caused by Adenovirus; MC in children; MC from a swimming pool; very contagious |
| Viral Conjunctivitis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | child who swims often with foreign body sensation, erythema & itching; normal vision; preauricular lymphadenopathy, copious watery discharge, scanty mucoid discharge. Often bilateral |
| Vitreous Hemorrhage | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Blurred vision; Floaters: faint cobweb-like apparitions floating through the field of vision. Reddish tint to vision. Photopsia- brief flashes of light in the peripheral vision. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| REPRODUCTIVE | | |
| Amenorrhea | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | 1ry: failure of menarche onset by age 15 (in the presence of secondary sex characteristics) or age 13 (in the absence of secondary sex characteristics) 2ry: absence of menses for > 3 months in a pt with previously normal menstruation (or > 6 months in a pt who was previously oligomenorrhea); MCC of 2ry amenorrhea = pregnancy |
| Anovulation | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Anovulation may manifest in a variety of clinical presentations, from luteal insufficiency to oligomenorrhea. Obtain a past medical and surgical hx. Hx about previous infections, hx of pelvic surgery, previous dx of chromosomal abnormalities, past hx of dilatation and curettage, any hx of amenorrhea or Asherman syndrome. Past family hx (mother and/or sisters have similar sx's?). Hx of pubertal development (onset of menarche, pubarche, and growth spurt); Detailed hx of the menses (frequency, regular or irregularity, length, quantity of uterine bleeding); past reproductive hx; past and current sexual hx; dietary hx; med hx; psych hx; hx of previous malignancies PE: evaluate Tanner Stages; examine age-appropriateness of genitalia; look for lanugo (anorexia) vs hirsutism/male pattern baldness (Ex. PCOS), etc. |
| Azoospermia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | 20% of male infertility situations. Can be pre-testicular (high FSH levels), testicular (genetic), or post-testicular (obstructive problem). |
| Bacterial Vaginosis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | overgrowth of Gardnerella Vaginalis; MCC of vaginitis. Decreased lactobacilli acidophilus (normally maintains vaginal pH) |
| Bacterial Vaginosis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | vaginal odor worse after sex; +/- pruritus; > 50% may be asx. |
| Bacterial Vaginosis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Amsel's Criteria: 1. clue cells on microscopic saline smear; 2. pH >4.5; 3. thin, homogenous watery grey-white discharge; 4. (+) whiff test- fishy odor with 10% KOH prep |
| Bacterial Vaginosis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Metronidazole (Flagyl) x 7 days - safe if prego, may use gel or PO; Clindamycin |
| Bacterial Vaginosis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Avoid douching; Condom use helps; No need to tx partner |
| Breast Cancer | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Hx/RF's: 1st degree relative with breast cancer, age > 65YO, increased number of menstrual cycles (nulliparity), late age of first full term pregnancy >35 YO, early onset of menarche <12 YO, late menopause, never breastfeeding, increased estrogen exposure (postmenopausal HRT's and OCP's, obesity, ETOH); BRCA1/BRCA2 PE: usually painless, hard, fixed (non-mobile) lump; MC in the upper outer quadrant of the breast. Unilateral nipple discharge, skin changes (asymmetric redness, discoloration, dimpling, changes in breast size; nipple inversion; skin thickening; peau d'orange --> poor prognosis |
| Breast Cancer | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Mammogram: microcalcifications & spiculated masses are highly suspicious for malignancy; mammogram is best screening test. 2. Ultrasound: recommended initial modality to evaluate breast masses in women < 40YO 3. Biopsy: FNA w/ biopsy |
| Breast Cancer | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | 1. Mammogram: annually for > 40 YO or 10 yrs prior to the age that your 1st degree relative was diagnosed. 2. Clinical Breast Exam: age 20-39 @ least every 3 yrs; > 40 YO annually 3. Breast Self-Exam: monthly > 20 YO- do immediately after menstruation or on days 5-7 of menstrual cycle; do in shower leaning forward |
| Breast Cancer | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Anti-estrogen (ex. Tamoxifen) is useful in tumors that are ER positive. Aromatase inhibitors (ex. Letrozole, Anastrozole) are useful in postmenopausal women with ER + breast cancer. Monoclonal Ab tx [Trastuzumab (Herceptin)] is useful in pts with HER2 positivity. |
| Breast Cancer Prevention | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | SERM (ex. Tamoxifen or Raloxifene) can be used in postmenopausal women or women > 35 YO with high risk for breast cancer. Tx is used for 5 years. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Cancer, Vulva | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | peak incidence 50 YO. Linked to DES exposure. Pruritus MC presentation, vaginal itching, irritation. Asymptomatic in ~20%. Post-coital bleeding, vaginal discharge. May have visible red/white ulcerative, crusted lesions. |
| Cancer, Vulva | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory | Biopsy- 90% squamous |
| Cervical Cancer | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Screening: pap smear with cytology Dxcolposcopy with biopsy |
| Cervical Cancer | Clinical Intervention | Stage 0 (Carcinoma in situ)- Local Tx: 1. Excision (LEEP, cold knife conization) --> preferred, 2. Ablation (cryotherapy or laser), 3. TAH-BSO Stage Ia1 (microinvasion): Surgery- conization (excision), TAH-BSO, XRT Other Stage I, Iia: TAH-BSO; XRT + Chemo tx (Cisplatin) Stage IIb-IVa (Locally Advanced): XRT + Chemo (Cisplatin +/- 5FU) Stage IVb or recurrent (Distant METS): palliative radiation, chemotherapy (surgery not likely curative) |
| Cervical Cancer | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | HPV associated with 99.7% (esp 16,18, 31 & 33, 45, 52, 58); 3rd MC gynecologic cancer (#1-endometrial, #2-ovarian); 3rd MC gynecologic cancer (31-endometrial, #2-ovarian) MC METS locally (vagina, parametrium, pelvic LN's) MC type = squamous; Clear Cell Carcinoma linked with DES exposure MC sx = post-coital bleeding/spotting |
| Cervical Cancer | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | RF's: HPV, early onset of sexual activity, increased number of partners, smoking, CIN, DES exposure, immunosuppression, STI's Prevention: HPV vaccine (Gardasil 9); screen for cervical cancer via pap smear w/ cytology |
| Chronic/Pre-existing HTN | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | HTN before 20 weeks gestation or before pregnancy; persists > 6 weeks postpartum. |
| Contraception | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Combination OCP's (Estrogen + Progesterone): prevents ovulation by inhibiting mid-cycle LH surge, thicken cervical mucosa, thins endometrium. Drospirenone (combo OCP) approved for PMDD/helps with bloating. Progestin only OCP's: safe during lactation; No estrogen SE's. IUD: most effective form besides abstinence; Increased PID risk. |
| Cystocele | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | posterior bladder herniating into the anterior vagina |
| Dysfunctional Uterine Bleeding (DUB) | Clinical Intervention | Dx of Exclusion. If work-up shows no evidence of organic cause and negative pelvic exam, DUB is the dx. Workup includes: hormone levels, transvaginal ultrasound. Endometrial biopsy if stripe > 4mm on transvaginal US or in women >35 YO (to rule out endometrial hyperplasia or carcinoma) |
| Dysfunctional Uterine Bleeding (DUB) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Hormone tx, IUD, tx underlying cause. |
| Eclampsia | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | preeclampsia + seizures or coma; abrupt tonic-clonic seizures 1-2 min --> postictal. Hyperreflexia. |
| Eclampsia | Clinical Intervention | ABCD's 1st. Magnesium sulfate for seizures. Lorazepam 2nd line if refractory. Delivery of fetus once pt stabilized. BP meds: hydralazine |
| Endometrial Cancer | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | RF's: Fm hx, increased # of ovulatory cycles, infertility, nulliparity, age > 50 YO, BRCA1/BRCA2, Peutz-Jehgers, Turner's Syndrome; HTN, DM, Tamoxifen; Increased estrogen exposure Estrogen-dependent cancer; MC gynecologic malignancy in the US; MC type = adenocarcinoma; MC postmenopausal (50-60 YO peak) Combination OCP's are protective against both ovarian & endometrial cancers |
| Endometrial Cancer | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Postmenopausal bleeding; Endometrial stripe > 4 mm on transvaginal US |
| Endometrial Cancer | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Dx: biopsy, pelvic exam, D&C, transvaginal US, CT, MRI Labs: CA-125 (seen in both endometrial & ovarian cancer) |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Endometrial Cancer | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | MC gynecologic malignancy in the US. 4th MC malignancy in women overall (after breast --> lung --> colorectal). MC postmenopausal (50-60 YO peak). Estrogen-dependent cancer. RF's: increased estrogen exposure- nulliparity, chronic anovulation, PCOS, obesity, estrogen replacement therapy, late menopause. Tamoxifen; HTN , DM. Combination OCP's are protective against both ovarian and endometrial cancers. Encourage regular visits with OBGYN. Educate women that MC sx is postmenopausal bleeding. |
| Endometriosis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Presence of endometrial tissue outside of the endometrial (uterine) cavity. The ectopic endometrial tissue responds to cyclical hormonal changes. Ovaries = MC site. RF's: nulliparity, family hx, early menarche. Onset usually <35 YO. |
| Endometriosis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | 1. Classic triad: cyclic premenstrual pelvic pain +/- low back pain, dysmenorrhea (painful menses), & dyspareunia (painful intercourse); dyschezia 2. +/- pre-post menopausal bleeding; 3. Infertility |
| Endometriosis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. PE: usually normal +/- fixed, tender adnexal masses 2. Laparoscopy with biopsy = definitive |
| Endometriosis | Clinical Intervention | 1. Medical (Conservative): combined OCP's + NSAID's (for pain); Progesterone, Leuprolide, Danazol 2. Surgical: laparoscopy w/ ablation if fertility desired; TAH-BSO if no desire to conceive. |
| Endometritis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Infection of the uterine endometrium; biggest risk factor = C-section, other RF's include: PROM >24 hrs, vaginal delivery, D&C for evacuation. |
| Endometritis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Fever, tachycardia, abdominal pain & uterine tenderness after C-section, 2-3 days postpartum or post-abortion. May have vaginal bleeding/foul smelling lochia. |
| Endometritis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Infxn post C-section: Clindamycin + Gentamicin. May add ampicillin for additional Group B strep coverage. Ampicillin/sulbactam is an alternative. 2. Infxn after vaginal delivery or chorioamnionitis: Ampicillin + Gentamicin |
| Enterocoele | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Pouch of Douglas (small bowel) herniated into the upper vagina |
| Fibroadenoma of the Breast | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | composed of glandular & fibrous tissue (collagen arranged in "swirls"); smooth, well-circumscribed, non-tender, freely mobile, rubbery lump in the breast. Gradually grows over time. Does not wax/wane with menstruation. |
| Fibrocystic Breast Changes | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Most spontaneously resolve (increases/decreases with menstrual hormonal changes). +/- FNA removal of fluid if symptomatic. |
| Fibrocystic Breast Disorder | Clinical Intervention | Ultrasound. FNA reveals straw-colored fluid (no blood); Most spontaneously resolve +/- FNA removal of fluid if symptomatic. |
| Fragile X Syndrome | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | x-ray spine (scoliosis); ECHO to exclude MVP; Molecular testing (DNA tests- FMR1 gene; Southern Blot & PCR) & karyotyping; do ophtho exam and audiology exam. |
| Gestational Diabetes | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Screening: done at 24-28 weeks gestation --> 50 g oral glucose challenge test (nonfasting) 2. Confirmatory 3-Hr 100 g oral GTT = gold standard. Performed in the morning after an overnight fast. |
| Gestational Diabetes | Clinical Intervention | Daily fingersticks overnight & after each meal. Diet/Exercise recommended. Labor induction @ 38 weeks if uncontrolled/macrosomia. @ 40 weeks if controlled/no macrosomia. C-section. |
| Gestational Diabetes | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Insulin = tx of choice. 2. Glyburide safe in pregnancy. Also metformin. |
| Gestational Hypertension | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Methyldopa = 1st line for chronic/pre-existing HTN. Labetalol, Hydralazine, Nifedipine |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Gestational Trophoblastic Disease (Molar Pregnancy) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | 2 MC RF's: prior molar pregnancy, extremes of maternal age <20 YO or >35 YO. Complete: egg with no DNA fertilized by 1 or 2 sperm. 46XX all paternal chromosomes. Associated with higher risk of malignant development into choriocarcinoma. Incomplete (partial): egg is fertilized by 2 sperm (or 1 sperm that duplicates its chromosomes). There may be development of the fetus, but its always malformed and never viable. |
| Gestational Trophoblastic Disease (Molar Pregnancy) | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Painless vaginal bleeding +/- brownish discharge; uterine size/date discrepancies (larger than expected). Preeclampsia before 20 weeks. Hyperemesis gravidarum earlier than usual. Choriocarcinoma: METS to lung MC. |
| Gestational Trophoblastic Disease (Molar Pregnancy) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Beta HCG markedly elevated (ex. > 100,000). Very low serum alpha-fetoprotein. 2. US: "snowstorm" or "cluster of grapes" appearance; absence of fetal parts/heart sounds in complete; no products of conception in complete; gestational sac may be present in partial. |
| Gynecomastia | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Breast development in boys/men; sometimes physiologic but consider medication-induced (anti-androgen meds, anabolic steroids, AIDs meds). |
| Gynecomastia | Clinical Intervention | 1. Supportive: depends on cause: ex. stop offending meds; observation if early in disease course (most regress spontaneously). Ideal tx should start within 6 months of onset. Surgery if resistant. Limit ETOH. |
| Gynecomastia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Clomiphene, Tamoxifen, Danazol |
| Herpes, genital | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | HSV-1 (oral) vs. HSV-2 (genital) - both can interchange. Educate patient about safe sex, condom use, etc. |
| Hyperemesis Gravidarum | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | PO or IV fluids; multivitamins; Bland diet: BRAT Diet (Bananas, Rice, Apple-sauce, Toast); Antiemetics Diclegis (Doxylamine + Pyridoxine) is only FDA-approved med for this; also metoclopramide, diphenhydramine, ondansetron (cleft palate risk) or promethazine |
| Hypothalamic Amenorrhea | Clinical Intervention | Check labs: TSH, B-hCG, T3/T4, FSH, Prolactin, LH, Testosterone; Pelvic US; MRI (pituitary); Pelvic Exam Lifestyle mods, unusual stress, including extreme diet & exercise habits |
| Hypothalamic Amenorrhea | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Normal/decreased FSH & LH, decreased Estradiol, Normal Prolactin |
| Hypothalamic Amenorrhea | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Clomiphene (to stimulate GnRH secretion from the hypothalamus) |
| Menopause | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | FSH assay most sensitive initial test (increased serum FSH > 30 IU/mL). Increased serum FSH, increased LH, decreased estrogen. Androstenedione levels don't change. Estrone is the predominant estrogen after menopause. |
| Menorrhagia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | OCP's: regulates the cycles, thins endometrial lining. Progesterone: orally or IUD (Mirena reduces bleeding in 79-94%). GnRH agonists: Leuprolide with add-back progesterone (to reduce the S/E of Leuprolide). |
| Menstruation, Normal Cycle | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | stimulated by estrogen (follicular phase); menses stops and the lining of the uterus thickens. Follicles develop. Mid-cycle, 30 hrs after LH surges, the follicle releases an ovocyte (ovulation). Ovocyte only lives for 24 hrs without fertilization. The dominant follicle in the ovary becomes a corpus luteum (producing progesterone). The uterus lining then changes to prepare for potential implantation of any embryo to establish a pregnancy. If implantation does not occur within ~2 weeks, the corpus luteum will cease. The hormone drop causes the uterus to shed its lining in a process termed menstruation. |
| Molar Pregnancy | Clinical Intervention | 1. Surgical uterine evacuation: suction curettage = mainstay - asap to avoid risk of choriocarcinoma. Followed weekly until beat HCG levels fall to undetectable level. Hysterectomy also an option. Rhogam to Rh(-) moms. Avoid pregnancy for 1 year. 2. METS: Chemotherapy (Methotrexate) destroys trophoblastic tissue &/or hysterectomy. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Mucopurulent Cervicitis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Depends on the cause, but 1st obtain culture; Empirically tx with Ceftriaxone + Azithromycin + Metronidazole +/- Doxycycline while awaiting results. |
| Mucopurulent Cervicitis | Clinical Intervention | Need a culture for GC and Chlamydia. |
| Multiple Gestation | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Dizygotic (fraternal): due to fertilization of 2 ova by two different sperm cells. Monozygotic (identical) formed from the fertilization of 1 ovum. Ultrasound. May have intrauterine growth restrictions. |
| Normal Morning Sickness | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Nausea and vomiting up until 16 weeks. |
| Ovarian Cancer | Clinical Intervention | 1. Early Stage: TAH-BSO + selective lymphadenectomy 2. Surgery: tumor debulking. Serum CA-125 used to monitor tx progress. 3. Chemotherapy: Paclitaxel (Taxol) + Cisplatin or Carboplatin |
| Padgett's Disease of the Breast | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Chronic eczematous itchy, scaling rash on the nipples & areola (may ooze). A lump is often present. |
| Placenta Previa: | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | abnormal placenta placement on or close to cervical os. 3rd trimester bleeding (bright red); No abdominal pain; soft/nontender uterus; no fetal distress usually |
| Placenta Previa | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Pelvic Ultrasound. Do not perform pelvic exam. |
| Placental Abruptio | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | 3rd trimester bleeding (dark red) + severe abdominal pain; fetal bradycardia/distress. Tender/rigid uterus. Ask about RF's: maternal HTN (MC), smoking, ETOH, cocaine, folate deficiency, high parity, increased age, trauma, chorioamnionitis. |
| Plan B | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Emergency contraception (i.e. "Morning After Pill")- uses Progestin to stop ovaries from releasing an egg. Most effective if taken within 72 hours after unprotected intercourse and continues to be effective for up to 5 days to help prevent pregnancy. Typically taken as a single dose pill. |
| Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | PCOS is due to insulin resistance (type 2 DM); associated with abnormal function of H-P-O axis --> increase insulin & increase LH-driven increase in ovarian androgen production. |
| Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Triad of 1. amenorrhea (chronic anovulation), 2. obesity, 3. hirsutism (androgen excess) |
| Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | menstrual irregularities (2ry amenorrhea), hirsutism, acne, +/- male pattern baldness; Type 2 DM; obesity, HTN PE: bilateral enlarged, smooth, mobile ovaries on bimanual exam; acanthosis nigricans |
| Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | High androgen levels, irregular periods, and cysts in the ovaries. A pelvic exam, blood tests and US can confirm the dx. Also, acne, extra hair growth on face/chin/body may arise. Fm medical hx such as if your mother had PCO or problems getting pregnant. Labs: decreased FSH, increased LH, increased testosterone, increased estrogen, low SHBG (sex hormone binding globulin), androstenedione (higher than normal). Separately could run HCG to determine if prego. |
| Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Combination OCP's = mainstay of Tx. Avoid androgenic progesterone (norgestrel, levonorgestrel) 2. Anti-androgenic agents for hirsutism: spironolactone (but it's teratogenic, so must be used with OCP's), leuprolide, finasteride 3. Infertility: clomiphene re-establishes ovulation; Metformin if abnormal LH:FSH ratios 4. Lifestyle: diet, exercise, wt. loss. 5. Surgical if Clomiphene unsuccessful (ex. wedge resection) |
| Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | PCOS pts at increased risk for infertility, endometrial hyperplasia, endometrial cancer. Also increased risk of atherosclerosis & HTN due to insulin resistance. |
| Preeclampsia | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | HTN + proteinuria +/- edema after 20 weeks gestation. Sxs of HTN (HA, visual sxs, fetal growth restriction). |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--|--|---|
| Preeclampsia | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Occurs > 20 weeks up to 6 weeks postpartum; HTN, proteinuria, edema, hyperreflexia |
| Preeclampsia | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | RF = nulliparity. Control HTN. Educate pt to be aware of signs of HTN (HA, visual changes); watch for signs of edema. Steroids to mature fetal lungs if <34 weeks & elective delivery planned. |
| Pregnancy after previous Cesarean Delivery | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | A vaginal birth after cesarean (VBAC) is considered a safe option. Rare cases where it's not safe include: placenta previa, if inverted T incision w/ prior pregnancy, heart disease, SOB. Benefits to VBAC: baby is less likely to have respiratory problems after birth, less pain/quicker recovery, less complications such as bleeding, infection, & blood clots. Less risk to future pregnancies of placenta problems: ectopic pregnancy & stillbirth. Repeat elective C-section is safe option as well. Mom will know what to expect & risk of emergency C-section during labor minimized. |
| Pregnancy, Gestational Diabetes | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | RF's: family hx or prior hx of gestational DM, spontaneous abortion, Hx of infant > 4,000g @ birth, multiple gestations, obesity, >25 YO, AA, hispanics, Asian/Pacific Islander & Native American. Mom has >50% chance of developing DM after pregnancy (& >50% chance of recurrence in subsequent pregnancies). Screen mom 6 weeks post-partum for DM and yearly afterwards. |
| Pregnancy, HTN | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Check BP. Ask about sx's of HTN such as HA, visual sx's. Check for fetal growth restriction. Look for edema (due to proteinuria). Increased DTR's. |
| Pregnancy, Normal Findings (Nausea & Vomiting) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Having a healthy pregnancy includes getting early/regular prenatal care. This includes exercising and preventing 2nd hand smoke exposure. In addition to progesterone and estrogen, HCG spikes in early pregnancy. Levels double every 2 days in the 1st 10 weeks of pregnancy. This prepares the placenta which allows the growing fetus to be supplied with nutrients/O2 and provides a route to remove toxic waste. During pregnancy, cardiac output increased (achieved by increasing stroke volume), CO peaks around week 24 of pregnancy. Also a 50% increase in the volume of plasma and a 20% increase in RBC & WBCs. |
| Pregnancy, parturition | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Parturition = childbirth. There are 3 stages: stage 1: onset of labor (true regular contractions) to full dilation of cervix (10 cm). Latent Phase & Active phase. Stage 2: Time from full cervical dilation until delivery of the fetus. Passive Phase & Active Phase Stage 3: Postpartum until delivery of the placenta. 0-30 minutes usually (Average is 5 min). The period 1-2 hours after delivery where the mother is assessed for complications is sometimes called the 4th stage. |
| Pregnancy, premature labor | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Ask about any hx of prior premature deliveries (before 37 weeks gestation). Regular uterine contractions (>4-6/hr) with progressive cervical changes (effacement & dilation) before 37 weeks. Premature labor if cervical dilation > 3 cm and/or > 80% effacement. Nitrazine pH paper test turns blue if pH >6.5 (amniotic fluid). Presence of fetal fibronectin between 20-34 weeks strongly suggests preterm labor. Rule out infections: UTI, Group B strep. L:S ratio <2:1 = fetal lung immaturity. |
| Pregnancy, Rh isoimmunization | Clinical Intervention | RhoGAM given if RH negative, Ab-negative in 3 situations: 1. @ 28 weeks gestation, AND 2. within 72 hours of delivery of an Rh positive baby or 3. after any potential mixing of blood (spontaneous abortion, vaginal bleeding, etc.) |
| Rectocele | Clinical Intervention | 1. Prophylactic: Kegel's, wt. control 2. Non-surgical: Pessaries (symptomatic relief), estrogen tx (improves atrophy) 3. Surgical: Hysterectomy; uterosacral or sacrospinous ligament fixation |
| Sterilization | Clinical Intervention | Women: tubal ligation; TAH-BSO Males: vasectomy |
| Transitional (Gestational) HTN | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | HTN after 20 weeks gestation; No proteinuria; Resolves 12 weeks postpartum. Clinically asx. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Uterine Leiomyoma | Clinical Intervention | Observation if asx- most don't need tx. Medical tx to decrease estrogen: progestins (medroxyprogesterone or leuprolide). Surgical: myomectomy (preserves fertility), endometrial ablation or hysterectomy (in women who have completed childbearing) |
| Vaginal bleeding in neonate | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | This is normal and called false menses. The cause is the sudden drop-off in the mother's estrogen (a hormone) after birth. The blood-tinged or pink discharge should not last more than 3 or 4 days. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--|---|--|
| ENDOCRINE | | |
| Acromegaly | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Pituitary adenoma causing hypersecretion of Growth Hormone (GH) after the closure of the epiphyses. Screening Test: exogenous insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF-1) Confirmatory Test: Oral Glucose Suppression Test- increased GH levels in acromegaly MRI of the pituitary |
| Acromegaly | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | DM and glucose intolerance. Enlargement of hands, feet, skull, and jaw (Macrogathia), coarse facial features, increased spaces b/w teeth, HA, deepened voice, thick moist skin (doughy) |
| Acromegaly | Clinical Intervention | 1. Transsphenoidal Surgery + Bromocriptine 2. Radiation therapy if IGF-1 levels stay elevated after surgery 3. Octreotide: somatostatin analog that suppresses GH secretion 4. Pegvisomant: GH antagonist; may be added to Octreotide |
| Adrenal Crisis | Applying Basic Concepts | MCC = abrupt withdrawal of glucocorticoids; shock = primary manifestation (decreased BP, hypovolemia) |
| Adrenal Crisis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. IV fluids: normal saline to correct hypotension & hypovolemia (D5NS if hypoglycemic) 2. Glucocorticoids: IV Hydrocortisone (if known Addison's); Dexamethasone (if undiagnosed) 3. Reversal of electrolyte disorders 4. Fludricortisone (Florinef): synthetic mineralocorticoid similar to aldosterone |
| Adrenal Insufficiency | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Baseline 8 am ACTH, cortisol, & renin levels obtained. 1. High Dose ACTH (Cosynotropin) Stimulation Test = Screening test 2. CRH Stimulation Test: differentiates b/w the causes of adrenal insufficiency |
| Adrenal Insufficiency | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1ry (Addison's): Glucocorticoids + Mineralocorticoids vs. 2ry: only glucocorticoids Glucocorticoids (ex. Dexamethasone, Hydrocortisone); Mineralocorticoids (ex. Fludricortisone) |
| Adrenocortical Insufficiency | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Trunk (abdominal, flank, back, or lower chest) pain with anorexia, nausea, or vomiting; weakness & muscle aches; hypotension; fever; confusion or disorientation; hyperpigmented skin changes; salt cravings; hypoglycemia; mild hyponatremia; hyperkalemia; metabolic acidosis |
| Adrenocortical Insufficiency (Addison Disease) | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Hypotension (orthostatic), syncope, dizziness; abdominal pain, fever, hyperpigmented skin; weakness/muscle aches, myalgia; wt. loss, appetite loss; salt cravings; loss of libido, amenorrhea, loss of axillary/pubis hair |
| Arthropathy, Charcot (joint) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | aka diabetic foot. Joint damage & destruction as a result of peripheral neuropathy from DM, peripheral vascular disease, or other disease. Repetitive microtrauma to foot with no sensation & autonomic dysfunction leads to bone resorption & weakening. MC affects the midfoot. Pain, swelling, alteration of the shape of the foot, ulcer, or skin changes. Radiographs show obliteration of joint space, scattered chunks of bone in fibrous tissue. |
| Cushing Syndrome, idiopathic | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Sxs secondary to excess cortisol and glucocorticoids: redistribution of fat: central (trunk) obesity, "moon facies", buffalo hump, supraclavicular fat pads catabolism (breakdown) of protein: wasting of extremities (thin extremities, proximal muscle weakness) skin atrophy (easy bruising & striae). Increased infections (fungal); Hyperpigmentation with increased ACTH. HTN, Osteoporosis, Hypokalemia; Acanthosis nigricans; wt. gain; Psych: depression, mania, psychosis; Androgen excess: hirsutism, oily facial skin, acneiform rash, increased libido, virilization, amenorrhea |
| Cushing's (Hypercortisolism) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Screening Tests (to dx Cushing's syndrome): 1. Low-Dose Dexamethasone Suppression Test, 2. 24 Hr Urinary Free Cortisol Levels, 3. Salivary Cortisol Levels Differentiating Test (to distinguish the causes of Cushing's Syndrome): 4. High-Dose Dexamethasone Suppression Test, 5. ACTH levels |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Cushing's (Hypocortisolism) | Clinical Intervention | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cushing's Disease (Pituitary) --> Transsphenoidal surgery; radiation therapy if unresectable 2. Ectopic ACTH-secreting or Adrenal Tumors --> tumor removal; ketoconazole or metyrapone may be used in inoperable pts 3. Iatrogenic Steroid Therapy --> gradual steroid taper (to prevent Addisonian Crisis) |
| Diabetes Insipidus (DI) | Applying Basic Concepts | Due to either 1. ADH (vasopressin) deficiency (Central DI) or 2. Insensitivity to ADH (Nephrogenic DI). Both central and nephrogenic DI lead to --> inability of the kidney to concentrate urine --> production of large amounts of dilute urine |
| Diabetes Insipidus (DI) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Pts usually only become clinically symptomatic with decreased oral free water intake. Polyuria (up to 20 L/day), Polydipsia, nocturia (may manifest as enuresis in children); Hypernatremia (increased serum osm) if severe or decreased oral water intake. Dehydration, hypotension, rapid vascular collapse in severe cases. |
| Diabetes Insipidus (DI) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fluid Deprivation Test: established the diagnosis of diabetes insipidus. Continued production of dilute urine = DI (decreased Uosm < 200 and low specific gravity < 1.005). 2. Desmopressin (ADH) Stimulation Test: differentiate nephrogenic from central DI. Administer Desmopressin (ADH): Central DI --> reduction in urine output (increased Uosm) indicating a response to ADH. Nephrogenic DI --> continued production of dilute urine (no response to ADH). |
| Diabetes Insipidus (DI) | Clinical Intervention | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Central DI: Desmopressin/DDAVP; Carbamazepine 2. Nephrogenic DI: Na+/protein restriction --> HCTZ; indomethacin potentiates effects of ADH; Amiloride may be used if due to Lithium. 3. If symptomatic --> hypotonic fluid (pure water orally preferred, D5W, 1/2 NS) |
| Diabetes Mellitus and Lactic Acidosis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Acidosis usually resolves with IV fluids & insulin. Bicarbonate only in severe acidosis (associated with many complications -ex. increased rate of cerebral edema) |
| Diabetic Hypoglycemia | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Acute altered mental status. A complication of DM. Usually due to too much insulin use, too little food intake, or excess exercise. Autonomic: sweating, tremors, palpitations, nervousness, tachycardia. CNS: HA, confusion, slurred speech, dizziness. Sxs occur when blood sugar @ 60 mg/dL. Brain dysfunction begins @ 50 mg/dL. |
| Diabetic Hypoglycemia | Clinical Intervention | Mild < 60 mg/dL: 10-15 g fast-acting carbohydrate, fruit juice, hard candy. Re-check in 15 min. Severe/Unconscious < 40 mg/dL: IV bolus of D50 or Inject glucagon SQ |
| Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | High anion gap metabolic acidosis: low pH/bicarb/CO ₂ ; increased RR (Kussmaul's respirations); (+) Ketones plasma glucose > 250, arterial pH < 7.3, bicarb usually < 15 |
| Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA) | Clinical Intervention | Initial management: ABC, mental status, vital signs, volume status, screen for precipitating event. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IV fluids: critical first step! 2. Regular Insulin 3. Potassium repletion 4. Bicarbonate in severe acidosis Tx goal = closing of the anion gap |
| Diabetic Nephropathy | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | microalbuminuria = first sign of diabetic nephropathy. Increased BP accelerates renal deterioration. Albuminuria, anemia, acidosis; Kidney bx: Kimmelstiel-Wilson (nodular glomerulosclerosis: pink hyaline material around the glomerular capillaries from protein leakage) |
| Graves Disease | Clinical Intervention | Radioactive iodine = MC therapy - destroys thyroid gland: will need chronic synthroid (levothyroxine); Methimazole/PTU (PTU safe in pregnancy) BB (Propranolol) for tremors, anxiety, tachycardia, palpitations, diaphoresis Thyroidectomy: if compressive sxs, no response to meds or if pregnant |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Gynecomastia | Clinical Intervention | 1. Supportive: stop offending meds (ex. spironolactone); observe if early (most regress). Ideal tx should start within first 6 months of onset. |
| Gynecomastia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. SERM (ex. Tamoxifen) 2. Aromatase inhibitors block estrogen synthesis - ex. Anastrozole (Arimidex), Letrozole (Femara) 3. Androgens used in hypogonadism (ex. DHEA) |
| Hyperaldosteronism | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Refractory HTN (HA, flushing; diastolic BP usually more elevated than systolic); Low potassium (hypokalemia with a metabolic alkalosis), proximal muscle weakness, polyuria, fatigue, constipation; decreased DTR's; hypomagnesemia. Although most patients are volume expanded, they are not edematous. |
| Hyperaldosteronism | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Labs: Hypokalemia with metabolic alkalosis 2. Aldosterone:Renin Ratio Screening: if hypertensive; most sensitive to distinguish 1ry vs. 2ry. ARR > 20 & plasma aldosterone > 20 & low plasma renin levels --> 1ry aldosteronism; High plasma renin levels = 2ry hyperaldosteronism. 3. Definitive Tests: Saline infusion test, sodium loading 4. CT/MRI to look for adrenal or extra-adrenal mass 5. EKG may show signs of hypokalemia (U wave) |
| Hyperaldosteronism | Clinical Intervention | 1. Conn's Syndrome: Excision of adrenal aldosteronoma + Spironolactone 2. Hyperplasia: Spironolactone, ACEI, CCB; Correct electrolyte imbalances 3. 2ry (Renovascular HTN): Definitive = angioplasty; ACE-I |
| Hypercortisolism (Cushing Syndrome) | Applying Basic Concepts | Cushing's Syndrome = is from steroids; Cushing's Disease = from a pituitary adenoma Causes: 1. Iatrogenic: long term, high dose corticosteroid therapy = MCC overall. 2. Cushing's Disease: benign pituitary adenoma or hyperplasia. 3. Ectopic ACTH: ACTH secreting: small cell lung cancer, medullary thyroid cancer. 4. Adrenal Tumor: cortisol-secreting adrenal adenoma. |
| Hyperosmolar Coma | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | This is Hyperosmolar Hyperglycemic Syndrome (HHS). Same tx as DKA. Mental status changes seen with HHS --> goal of tx is normal mental status |
| Hyperparathyroidism | Applying Basic Concepts | Primary (MC type): excess increased PTH production; MCC = parathyroid adenoma; Other causes: parathyroid hyperplasia/enlargement, lithium, MENI (hyperparathyroidism, pituitary tumors, pancreatic tumors), MENIIa (hyperparathyroidism, pheochromocytoma, medullary thyroid carcinoma) Secondary: increased PTH in response to hypocalcemia or Vit D. deficiency. Parathyroid tries to compensate by increasing PTH to increase calcium levels towards normal. MCC of 2ry is Chronic Kidney Failure (kidneys usually convert Vit D to usable form). |
| Hyperparathyroidism | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Signs of hypercalcemia: "stones, bones, abdominal groans, psych moans"; decreased DTR's |
| Hyperplasia, Congenital adrenal | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Autosomal recessive disorder; involves a deficiency of an enzyme in the sunthesis of cortisol, aldosterone, or both. The sex of the neonate is often initially unclear because of genital ambiguity. |
| Hyperprolactinemia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Stop offending drug 2. Dopamine Agonists (Bromocriptine, Cabergoline) |
| Hyperthyroidism | Applying Basic Concepts | Types: 1. Graves Dz (MCC): autoimmune. MC in women 20-40 YO, worse with stress (pregnancy, illness) 2. Toxic Multinodular Goiter (Plummer Dz): autonomous functioning nodules. MC in elderly. 3. Toxic Adenoma: one autonomous functioning nodule 4. TSH-secreting pituitary adenoma |
| Hyperthyroidism | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | 1. Grave's Dz: diffuse enlarged thyroid, thyroid bruits. Lid lag, exophthalmos/proptosis (exclusive to Grave's), pretibial myxedema: nonpitting, edematous, pink to brown plaques/nodules on shins. 2.Toxic Multinodular Goiter & 3. Toxic Adenoma: diffuse enlarged thyroid. No skin/eye changes. Palpable nodule(s); dyspnea, dysphagia, stridor, hoarseness (laryngeal compression) 4. TSH-secreting pituitary adenoma: diffuse enlarged thyroid; bitemporal hemianopsia, mental "disturbances" |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| Hypoparathyroidism | Applying Basic Concepts | 2 MCC's are 1. Postsurgical (accidental damage/removal during neck/thyroid surgery), 2. autoimmune destruction; Others: radiation, hypomagnesemia (magnesium required for PTH production) |
| Hypoparathyroidism | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | carpedal spasms, Trousseau's & Chvostek's signs; Increased DTR's. Triad: Hypocalcemia, decreased PTH, increased phosphate |
| Hypoparathyroidism | Clinical Intervention | Calcium supplemented & Vit D. IV calcium gluconate if severe. |
| Hypopituitarism | Applying Basic Concepts | Pituitary destruction or deficient hypothalamic pituitary stimulation. Congenital or acquired ex. tumor, infiltrative disease, bleeding into the pituitary (Sheehan's syndrome), pituitary infarction, XRT |
| Hypopituitarism | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Subnormal secretion of pituitary hormones. Each pituitary hormone must be tested separately since there is a variable pattern. |
| Hypothyroidism | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | High serum TSH; Low serum free T4. Hashimoto's has (+) thyroid Ab present: thyroglobulin Ab, antimicrosomal & thyroid peroxidase Ab Decreased radioactive iodine uptake May check for iodine deficiency |
| Hypothyroidism | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Synthetic thyroxine (T4, Levothyroxine) |
| Hypothyroidism (Myxedema) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Myxedema Crisis = Extreme form of hypothyroidism; Fatigue, cold intolerance, wt. gain, constipation, dry skin, myalgia, and menstrual irregularities. Goiter may be present in both hypo/hyperthyroid states. Bradycardia, diastolic HTN, and a delayed relaxation phase of DTR's. Hypothermia, hypoglycemia, hyponatremia. Usually seen in elderly women with longstanding hypothyroidism in winter months. |
| Hypothyroidism (Myxedema) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Decreased T3/T4 (super low or undetectable); Increased TSH bradycardia, hypothermia, hypoventilation, hypotensive, hypoglycemia, hyponatremia; delayed relaxation phase of DTR's. |
| Klinefelter Syndrome | Applying Basic Concepts | Males with a 47XXY karyotype. Causes hypogonadism and small testes. Can lead to infertility. Also at increased risk for testicular cancer. |
| Klinefelter Syndrome | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Pts appear normal prior to puberty --> tall, thin stature, long limbs. In adulthood they become obese and can have scoliosis, ataxia, mild developmental delays. Hypogonadism presents with small testicles, infertility (azoospermia), gynecomastia, and scarce pubic hair. |
| Klinefelter Syndrome | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 47XXY karyotype. Low serum testosterone. |
| Klinefelter Syndrome | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Testosterone supplementation may help with secondary sex characteristics. |
| Pheochromocytoma | Applying Basic Concepts | Catecholamine-secreting adrenal tumor (chromaffin cells); secretes norepi & epi autonomously and intermittently; 90% benign; may be associated with MENII |
| Pheochromocytoma | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | 2ry HTN, Palpitations, Headache, Excessive sweating; wt. loss (but increased appetite) |
| Pheochromocytoma | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Increase in 24-hour urinary catecholamines (increased metanephrine & increased vanillylmandelic acid) 2. MRI or CT of abdomen to visualize adrenal tumor Labs: hyperglycemia, hypokalemia |
| Pheochromocytoma | Clinical Intervention | 1. Complete Adrenalectomy. Pre-op non-selective alpha-blocker (Phenoxybenzamine or Phentolamine x 7-14 days) --> followed by BB's or CCB's to control HTN |
| Pituitary Adenoma | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. MRI: study of choice to look for sellar lesions/pituitary tumors 2. Endocrine studies: prolactin, GH, ACTH, TSH, FSH, LH |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|---|---|--|
| Primary Adrenal Insufficiency (Addison's) | Applying Basic Concepts | Adrenal gland destruction (lack of cortisol AND aldosterone). Etiologies: 1. Autoimmune: MC in industrialized countries; causes adrenal atrophy; 2. Infection (MCC worldwide): TB, HIV, fungal, CMV; causes adrenal calcification; 3. Vascular: thrombosis or hemorrhage in the adrenal gland (Waterhouse-Friderichsen); Trauma. 4. Metastatic disease; Medications: Ketoconazole, Rifampin, Phenytoin, Barbiturates |
| Primary Hyperaldosteronism | Applying Basic Concepts | Is renin-independent (autonomous). Idiopathic or idiopathic bilateral adrenal hyperplasia (60%). MC in women. Conn's Syndrome: adrenal aldosteronoma (40%) located in the zona glomerulosa. Unilateral adrenal hyperplasia is rare. |
| Primary Hyperaldosteronism | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Labs: Hypokalemia with metabolic alkalosis 2. Aldosterone:Renin Ratio Screening: ARR > 20 & plasma aldosterone > 20 & low plasma renin levels --> 1ry aldosteronism 3. Definitive: saline infusion (no decrease in aldosterone level); sodium loading (high urine aldosterone) 4. CT/MRI 5. EKG: hypokalemia (U wave) |
| Primary Hyperparathyroidism | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Triad: increased Calcium, increased intact PTH, decreased Phosphate; increased 24 hr urine calcium excretion; increased Vit D 2. Osteopenia on bone scan (DEXA scan) 3. Imaging studies to detect parathyroid adenoma (CT or MRI) |
| Primary Hyperparathyroidism | Clinical Intervention | 1. surgery - parathyroidectomy (subtotal- 3 1/2) or (total- remove all 4 glands w/ autotransplantation of parathyroid tissue in the forearm) 2. Vit D/Ca2+ supplementation if 2ry 3. Tx hypercalcemia if symptomatic (IV fluids, furosemide) |
| Short Stature, Hereditary | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Check growth hormone levels??? |
| SIADH | Applying Basic Concepts | Non-physiologic excess increased ADH from pituitary or ectopic source --> increased free water retention & impaired water excretion --> Hyponatremia & inability of the kidney to dilute the urine. The two normal stimuli that increases ADH secretion is hypovolemia or hyperosmolarity. In SIADH, the patient is both euvolemic & hypoosmolar, so increased ADH is considered inappropriate. |
| SIADH | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Isovolemic Hypotonic Hyponatremia; Serum: decreased serum osm (<280), decreased Na+ (<135), decreased BUN, Hypouricemia 2. Urine: increased urine osm (>300) = concentrated urine despite decreased serum osm; UNa>20 3. Dx made in the absence of renal, adrenal, pituitary, thyroid disease or diuretic use. |
| SIADH | Clinical Intervention | Tx underlying cause when possible. Fluid restriction < 800 mL/day - 1L/day. Severe hyponatremia (usually below 120 mEq/L) or intracranial bleed --> requires IV hypertonic saline w/ furosemide. Avoid rapid correction of hyponatremia to prevent Central Pontine Myelinolysis (no faster than 0.5 mEq/L per hr) |
| Subacute Thyroiditis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Painful thyroiditis; MC after viral infxns/illness; associated with HLA-B35 Painful, tender neck/thyroid |
| Subacute Thyroiditis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Clinical hyperthyroidism in acute phase --> hypothyroid Increased ESR (hallmark); No thyroid antibodies; decreased RAIU |
| Subacute Thyroiditis | Clinical Intervention | Aspirin (no anti-thyroid meds) |
| Thyroglossal duct cyst | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | often presents as midline neck cysts closely associated with the hyoid bone. Often asx but can present as an abscess or intermittently drain sinus. Mass will elevate with tongue protrusion or swallowing. |
| Thyroid Cancer | Clinical Intervention | Surgical removal: 1. Total thyroidectomy, 2. subtotal thyroidectomy (may be coupled w/ radioiodine therapy &/or thyroid/TSH suppression with thyroid hormones May monitor thyroglobulin levels 6 months after thyroidectomy to look for residual cells. Done by giving recombinant TSH & then checking thyroglobulin levels. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| Thyrotoxicosis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Thyrotoxicosis is the condition that occurs due to excess thyroid hormone of any cause and therefore includes hyperthyroidism. Increased T3 & T4 with decreased TSH (TSH may be undetectable). Anxiety, emotional lability, weakness, tremor, palpitations, heat intolerance, sweating, and wt. loss, tachycardia, A-fib, high fever, nausea, vomiting, psychosis, tremors --> progresses to coma and hypotension; usually a precipitating event (surgery, trauma, infxn, illness, prego) |
| Thyrotoxicosis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Anti-thyroid drugs: IV PTU or Methimazole, radioiodine, surgery 2. BB ASAP 3. Supportive: IV glucocorticoid; Cardiac monitoring, IV fluids, Avoid Aspirin; cooling blankets. Avoid Aspirin |
| Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus | Applying Basic Concepts | Pancreatic beta cell destruction (pt. is no longer able to produce insulin). Most commonly presents in childhood/young adult (onset usually <30YO). Type 1A: autoimmune beta cell destruction triggered by 1 or more environmental factors. Type 1B: non-autoimmune beta cell destruction. |
| Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | 1. Most are asymptomatic (may be incidental finding). 2. Classic sx: polyuria, polydipsia, polyphagia, wt loss; DKA, HHS Pt may present with the following complications: neuropathy, retinopathy, nephropathy, macrovascular, hypoglycemia |
| Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Insulin therapy initiated in Type 1 DM. |
| Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Classic sx: polyuria, polydipsia, polyphagia, weight loss. Neuropathy complications: 1. Sensorimotor: stocking glove pattern, paresthesias, abnormal gait, decreased proprioception. 2. Autonomic: orthostatic hypotension, gastroparesis, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation. 3. CNIII Palsy: pupil size will remain normal. Retinopathy complications: diagnosed with fundoscopic exam, angiography. 1. Non-proliferative: microaneurysms, hard exudates, dot or flame hemorrhages, cotton wool spots. 2. Proliferative: neovascularization (growth of new, abnormal blood vessels). 3. Maculopathy: macular edema, blurred vision, central vision loss. Nephropathy Complications: kidney deterioration leading to microalbuminuria. DM is the MCC of end stage renal disease. Macrovascular Complications: atherosclerosis leading to CAD, peripheral vascular disease, stroke. |
| Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Tx neuropathy with gabapentin. Tx retinopathy with Bevacizumab. Tx nephropathy with ACEI. Tx blood sugar with Antihyperglycemic meds or insulin. |
| Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | Weight reduction and exercise. Diet: Carbs 50-60%, Protein (15-20%), 10% unsaturated fats. Glucose control goals: HgbA1c < 7% (check q3 months if not controlled; check twice a year if controlled). Pre-prandial blood glucose goal 80-130 mg/dL; post-prandial goal <180 mg/dL (1hr). Lipid Control; Good foot care/podiatrist monitoring at least yearly. Yearly eye screening by an ophthalmologist. Yearly screening for microalbuminemia. Yearly checks of BUN & Creatinine. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| RENAL/GU | | |
| Acidosis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | pH will be < 7.35 (acidic); acidosis stimulates increased respiratory rate (to blow off excess CO ₂). Metabolic acidosis is likely from DKA, uremia, sepsis, etc. vs. Respiratory acidosis can be from anything that causes hypoventilation (ex. CNS depression from drugs/CVA, PTX, airway obstruction, myopathy, pneumonia, pulmonary edema; COPD, obesity, MS, Guillain-Barre, etc.) |
| Acute Prostatitis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | prostate gland inflammation secondary to ascending infection. >35 YO: E. coli vs. < 35 YO: Chlamydia & Gonorrhea |
| Acute Prostatitis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Fever, chills (in acute, not chronic); irritative sx's; obstructive sx's; low back/abdominal pain, perineal pain in acute (sx's usually more mild in chronic); Exquisitely tender hot, boggy prostate (vs. chronic usually nontender) |
| Acute Prostatitis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. DRE 2. Urinalysis & Urine Culture: positive in acute; often negative in chronic. 3. Avoid prostatic massage in acute prostatitis (could cause bacteremia); often done in chronic to increase bacterial yield on UA/culture 4. Transrectal US: may be helpful for suspected prostatic abscess or calculi |
| Acute Renal Failure | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Elevated Bun and Cr with ratio < 20. This can be pre-renal (usually dehydration), renal (look at NSAIDs and ACEI use), or post-renal (prostate) |
| Acute Tubular Necrosis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | epithelial cell casts & muddy brown casts; waxy/granular casts (formed in damaged tubules); low specific gravity (unable to concentrate urine); Hyperkalemia, hyperphosphatemia. |
| Acute Tubular Necrosis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Tx volume depletion- IV fluids Tx volume overload- diuretics (ex. furosemide) Tx hyperkalemia if severe and associated with EKG findings Tx metabolic acidosis- dialysis if pH <7.1 Tx hyperphosphatemia w/ dialysis if severe or oral phosphate binders if mild-mod. This will usually correct the low calcium. |
| Azotemia, Postrenal | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | usually bladder-scan the bladder for residual volume. There will be an elevated BUN & Cr |
| Azotemia, Pre-renal | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | elevated BUN and Cr from problems in the systemic circulation that decreases flow to the kidneys (aka decreased renal perfusion) - hypovolemia Pre-renal = MC type AKI. May also be combined effect of afferent arteriole constriction (ex. NSAIDs, IV contrast) + efferent arteriole dilation (ex. ACE/ARB) |
| Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH) | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Ask: frequency in urination, nocturia, hesitancy, weak/intermittent stream force, incomplete emptying, and incontinence (extrinsic compression of the prostatic urethra) PE: DRE = uniformly enlarged, firm, rubbery prostate (if hard nodular - check prostate cancer) |
| Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. DRE; 2. Increased PSA; 3. urine cytology: if increased risk of bladder cancer (h/o tobacco, irritative bladder sx's, or hematuria) |
| Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH) | Clinical Intervention | 1. Observation if mild- monitor annually; avoid antihistamines/anticholinergics Surgery: TURP |
| Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 5-alpha-reductase inhibitors: Finasteride & Dutasteride --> MOA = androgen inhibitor & prostate size reduction/decreased need for surgery. SE's: sexual or ejaculatory dysfunction, decreased libido, breast tenderness/enlargement. Alpha-1 Antagonists/"blockers": Tamsulosin (Flomax- most uroselective), Alfuzosin, Doxazosin, Terazosin --> provides rapid sx relief but no effect on BPH clinical course. MOA= smooth muscle relaxer of prostate & bladder neck; decreased urinary resistance; SE's: other alpha-1 antagonist effects like hypotension, dizziness, retrograde ejaculation. |
| Bladder Cancer | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | MC type is Transitional Cell Carcinoma (TCC). Biggest RF = smoking. Other RF's include occupational exposure (dyes, rubber, leather), age > 40, white males 3x MC, cyclophosphamide, pioglitazone Most present early & respond well to tx, but has the highest rate of reoccurrence of all cancers. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Bladder Cancer | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Painless hematuria (gross or microscopic); irritative sx's (frequency, urgency, dysuria) |
| Bladder Cancer | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Cystoscopy w/ biopsy (can be diagnostic or curative) |
| Bladder Cancer | Clinical Intervention | 1. Localized or Superficial: transurethral resection (electrocautery) & follow-up every 3 months. 2. Invasive disease (advanced or involving muscular layer): radical cystectomy, chemo, radiation 3. Recurrent: BCG vaccine intravesical if electrocautery unsuccessful. Do not use if immunosuppressed or if gross hematuria present. |
| Bladder Injury | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Ureteral contrast study w/ pelvic fracture. Look for blood at the meatus, high riding prostate, or scrotal hematoma. |
| Bladder Outlet Obstruction | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | If due to BPH: alpha-1 blockers: Tamsulosin If decreased detrusor muscle activity (atony): cholinergic (ex. Bethanechol) |
| Chronic Kidney Disease | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Proteinuria: single best predictor of disease progression; Spot U albumin/U creatinine Ratio (ACR), 24 Hr. urine collection 2. Urinalysis: broad waxy cast seen in ESRD 3. Estimated GFR 4. Increased BUN/Creatinine, serum electrolytes, lipid profile. Renal biopsy. 5. Renal Ultrasound: small kidneys classic. |
| Chronic Renal Failure | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Ask about hx of DM (MCC of ESRD), HTN (2nd MCC of ESRD), glomerulonephritis, vascular disease, polycystic kidney disease, tubulointerstitial disease, urinary tract obstruction or dysfunction, recurrent kidney stones, congenital birth defects of the kidney or bladder, any previous hx of acute kidney injury, etc. |
| Chronic Renal Failure | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | A low-protein, low-salt diet; calcitriol is recommended for Vit D deficiency. HTN and proteinuria are the 2 most important modifiable RF's. HTN: BP goal < 140/90- ACEI/ARB; decrease sodium/water intake, diuresis Proteinuria: decrease protein intake, ACE/ARB for microalbuminuria or proteinuria DM control: Hgba1C < 6.5, hyperlipidemia control (LDL<100, TG<150, HDL>50) Dialysis if GFR < 10 mL/min &/or serum Cr > 8 mg/dL (if DM pt.: GFR < 15 &/or Cr > 6) |
| Chronic Renal Insufficiency | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | control HTN (BP) with ACEI, diuretics. Proteinuria: ACEI/ARB DM control: Metformin, insulin Lipid Control: statins (LDL), Fibrates (decreases TG) Anemia: oral FeSO4 --> Erythropoietin or Darbepoetin-a if anemia persists after normal iron stores (goal Hgb 11-12) Coagulopathy: Desmopressin prior to surgical procedures Renal osteodystrophy: Vit D (calcitriol) & phosphate binders (calcium acetate); Sevelamer (Renagel) used if both calcium & phosphate levels elevated. |
| Contrast-induced Nephropathy | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | volume expansion w/ isotonic saline (0.9% NaCl) or hypotonic saline (0.45% NaCl) |
| Cryptorchidism | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Undescended testicle. Increase risk in premature infants, low birth weight. MC on R-side. |
| Cryptorchidism | Clinical Intervention | 1. Orchiopexy recommended as early as 6 months (ideally before 1 YO) 2. Observation if < 6 months of age. Most descend by 3 months. 3. can give hCG or gonadotropin releasing hormone to stimulate testosterone 4. Orchiectomy if detected at puberty to decrease risk of testicular cancer. |
| Cryptorchidism | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | Complications include: testicular cancer, subfertility, testicular torsion, and inguinal hernia. |
| Cryptorchidism | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | empty, small scrotum +/- inguinal fullness |
| Cystitis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | dysuria (burning), increased frequency, urgency, hematuria, suprapubic discomfort, pyuria, (+) leukocyte esterase, nitrites |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Cystitis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Uncomplicated cystitis: 1. Nitrofurantoin (Macrobid), 2. FQ (ex. Cipro), 3. TMP-SMX (Bactrim) Complicated cystitis: FQ PO or IV, Aminoglycoside |
| Cystitis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | increase fluid intake, void after intercourse, Phenazopyridine (Pyridium) turns urine orange/not used more than 48 hours due to SE (methemoglobinuria, hemolytic anemia) |
| Dehydration | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Increased thirst; decreased capillary refill, dry mucous membranes, decreased skin turgor; neurologic changes such as headaches; decreased urine output (unless polyuria is the cause of dehydration), confusion, unexplained tiredness; may be due to diarrhea |
| Dehydration | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Electrolyte replenishment. Rehydration fluids contain glucose, sodium and potassium. +/- Ondansetron (Zofran) |
| Diabetic Nephropathy | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Persistent albuminuria (>300 mg/d) that is confirmed on at least two occasions 3-6 months apart. A relentless decline in the GFR. Elevated arterial BP. Anemia, Acidosis. Kidney biopsy: Kimmelstiel-Wilson |
| Drug, Adverse Effect Diuretics | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Mannitol SE: pulmonary edema Acetazolamide SE: hyperchloremic metabolic acidosis, sulfa allergies, kidney stones (calcium & phosphate) Loop Diuretics SE: Hypokalemia, hypocalcemia, hypomagnesemia, hyperglycemia, hyperuricemia, ototoxic, sulfa allergy, hypochloremia metabolic alkalosis, NSAID's decrease efficacy. Thiazides SE: Hyponatremia, hypokalemia, hypercalcemia, hyperlipidemia, hyperuricemia, hyperglycemia, sulfa allergies, metabolic alkalosis K+ Sparing SE: hyperkalemia, metabolic acidosis, gynecomastia |
| Enuresis, Childhood, Nocturnal | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | Many children overcome incontinence naturally (without tx) as they grow older. Meds not recommended under 6 YO. 1. Behavior therapy: regular voiding schedule, pee before bed, wake child up to pee intermittently, avoid caffeine/sugar drinks, fluid restriction; continence training. 2. Enuresis alarm |
| Enuresis, Childhood, Nocturnal | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Desmopressin (DDAVP), TCA's (Imipramine), anticholinergics |
| Epididymitis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Epididymal pain and swelling secondary to retrograde infection or reflux of urine. Epididymitis usually bacterial. Acute Epididymitis: Men <35 YO - Chlamydia MC +/- viral in children (Mumps MC); Men > 35 YO & Children- E.coli, Klebsiella Chronic Epididymitis: > 6 weeks secondary to inadequate tx of acute cases, chronic disease, Mycobacterium tuberculosis |
| Erectile Dysfunction | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | inability to generate or maintain an erection. May be due to: DM, psychogenic, vascular (atherosclerosis), prolactinoma, trauma, surgery, meds (ex. BB, HCTZ, CCB, SSRI's, TCA's). Abrupt onset likely psychological vs. gradual worsening indicates systemic causes. |
| Exercise-induced hematuria | Clinical Intervention | Decrease intensity/frequency of exercise; fluids |
| Glomerulonephritis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | immunologic inflammation of the glomeruli causing protein AND RBC leakage into the urine. HTN, hematuria (RBC casts), dependent edema (proteinuria) & azotemia = hallmark. Etiologies include: IgA nephropathy, Post-infectious (MC after GABHS), Membranoproliferative/Mesangiocapillary (ex. HCV), Goodpasture's disease, and Vasculitis. |
| Glomerulonephritis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Urinalysis: hematuria (RBC casts), dysmorphic RBC's, proteinuria (usually < 3g/day but may be in the nephrotic range), high specific gravity > 1.020 osm.; increased BUN & Cr; Renal biopsy= gold standard (not needed if post-strep) |
| Goodpasture's Disease | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | cause of acute glomerulonephritis (AGN); presents with rapidly progressive glomerulonephritis (RPGN) --> crescent formation on biopsy; (+) Anti-GBM antibodies in kidney & lung alveoli --> kidney failure & hemoptysis. Often occurs post-URI |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Goodpasture's Disease | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | linear IgG deposits |
| Goodpasture's Disease | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | high dose corticosteroids + cyclophosphamide + plasmapheresis (removes antibodies) |
| Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Intravascular hemolysis can produce Acute Tubular Necrosis (ATN) due to hemoglobinuria. Sxs: red/brown urine and plasma, decreased haptoglobin, increased LDH, deteriorated renal function, fraction excretion of sodium (FENa) <1%. Tx: hemodialysis |
| Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Triad: 1. Thrombocytopenia, 2. Microangiopathic hemolytic anemia, 3. Kidney failure. Suspect HUS if child w/ renal failure w/ diarrhea prodrome. |
| Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS) | Clinical Intervention | 1. Observation & IV fluids in most kids. 2. plasmapheresis (+/- FFP) if severe. Antibiotics may worsen. |
| Hydrocele | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Ask about hx of patent processus vaginalis that failed to close. In infants, it is congenital. Adults ask about hx of injury, infection or inflammatory etiologies. On physical exam: Cystic testicular fluid collection; painless scrotal swelling; ask about any dull aching/heavy sensation. Swelling worse with Valsalva; (+) transillumination. Must rule out testicular tumor. |
| Hydronephrosis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | distention of renal calyces & pelvis w/ urine as a result of obstruction of outflow of urine distal to the renal pelvis |
| Hydronephrosis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. UA: to assess for infxn/pyuria, microscopic hematuria (stone or tumor) 2. CBC: leukocytosis (acute infxn) 3. BUN/Cr; hyperkalemia 4. Bladder Catheter; 4.5 plain film radiographs 5. Renal Us --> CT |
| Hypercalcemia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | 90% of cases due to primary hyperparathyroidism (MC overall) or malignancy. PTH-mediated (1ry hyper parathyroid)- increased calcium + increased intact PTH + decreased phosphate Malignancy (secretes increased PTH-related protein), decreased intact PTH |
| Hypercalcemia | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | stones, bones, abdominal groan (ex. ileus, constipation), psych moans; decreased DTR's |
| Hypercalcemia | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Increased ionized calcium, increased total serum calcium (>10 mg/dL); check PTH-related protein, 1,25 Vit D level, 24 hr. urinary calcium; EKG: shortened QT interval, prolonged PRI, wide QRS |
| Hypercalcemia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Mild: No tx Severe/symptomatic: IV saline --> furosemide; avoid HCTZ; calcitonin/ bisphosphonate if severe |
| Hyperkalemia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Etiologies: acute or chronic renal failure (esp. dialysis pts), eating lots of bananas, hypoaldosteronism, adrenal insufficiency, K+sparing diuretics/ACEI/Digoxin/BB/ NSAIDs; rhabdomyolysis, burns, hypovolemia, metabolic acidosis (DKA), Lab Error |
| Hyperkalemia | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Potassium > 5.0 mEq/L; glucose, bicarbonate part of the workup; +/- CBC (hemolysis); +/- CK (rhabdomyolysis) EKG: tall peaked T waves --> QR interval shortening, wide QRS, prolonged PRI --> P wave flattening --> sine wave --> arrhythmias |
| Hyperkalemia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | If EKG changes, start with calcium to protect the heart (IV calcium gluconate). Then we shift potassium into the cell with either bicarb or insulin/dextrose. Then clear it from the body with Kayexalate or dialysis. |
| Hypocalcemia | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | decreased ionized Calcium, decreased total serum calcium (< 8.5 mg/dL); +/- increased phosphate, decreased magnesium. Check PTH, BUN/Cr; EKG: prolonged QT interval, shortened PRI, narrow QRS |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Hypokalemia | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | MCC are diuretic therapy, vomiting, diarrhea; can also be from metabolic alkalosis, vitamin B12 tx. Pt may present with severe muscle weakness (including respiratory), rhabdomyolysis; nephrogenic DI: polyuria, cramps, N/V, decreased DTR's. May have palpitations, arrhythmias. EKG will show T wave flattening --> prominent U wave. |
| Hyponatremia | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Serum Na < 135. May order urine sodium & urine osmolality. |
| Hypovolemia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Tx with volume - crystalloids (NS or LR). If blood loss, stop bleeding & give blood. Electrolyte replacement as needed and if giving massive blood transfusion, give platelets and FFP with RBC's |
| Hypovolemia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Low volume - wide pulse pressure. Increased HR and decreased BP with standing. |
| Hypovolemic Shock | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Loss of blood or fluid volume leads to increased PVR & increased HR to maintain CO. Pt with either hemorrhage (ex. GI bleed, AA, rupture, etc.) or with fluid loss (ex. GI- vomiting, diarrhea; pancreatitis, severe burns, etc.). Decreased CO, decreased PCWP, increased SVR. Pale/cool/mottled skin, prolonged capillary refill, decreased skin turgor, dry mucous membranes; usually no severe respiratory depression. |
| Hypovolemic Shock | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Volume resuscitation: crystalloids (NS or LR); control the source of hemorrhage: +/- Packed RBC's (O negative or cross-matched); treat any coagulopathies |
| IgA Nephropathy | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | (+) IgA mesangial deposits on immunostaining. |
| Immobilization | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | |
| Impotence, Organic Origin | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Etiologies: Neurologic (ex. DM), vascular (atherosclerosis), prolactinoma, trauma, surgery, meds (BB, HCTZ, CCB, SSRI's, TCA's). Strong correlation b/w HTN & ED; also b/w BPH & ED. Psychogenic is non-organic cause. |
| Impotence, Organic Origin | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Inability to generate or maintain an erection? Get sexual, medical, or psych hx. PE: check BP, peripheral pulses, sensation, examine genitalia & prostate size/texture of testes, presence of epididymis and vas deferens, abnormalities of penis (hypospadias, Peyronie). Do DRE if suspect BPH. |
| Impotence, Organic Origin | Clinical Intervention | 1. Do Hx and PE (BP, DRE). 2. Check testosterone, LH, prolactin, TSH, HgbA1c, CBC, lipid panel, PSA, UA. 3. Direct injection of PGE1 (Alprostadil) into corpora cavernosa will create erection in 5 min if blood vessels capable of dilating. 4. Nocturnal Penile Tumescence to evaluate sleep erections. 5. Duplex US to evaluate penile blood flow. |
| Impotence, Organic Origin | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. PDE5 Inhibitor: Sildenafil, Tadalafil, Vardenafil 2. PGE1 injection 3. Vacuum pump, penile revascularization, penile prosthetics 4. Testosterone if low |
| Interstitial Cystitis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | The diagnosis is most often made when long-standing urinary frequency, urgency, and pelvic pain exists in the absence of a readily identifiable etiology such as UTI. Urinalysis (UA) and Urine culture are mandatory. A voiding diary is helpful in establishing baseline voiding frequency. +/- Cystoscopy, Cystography, Voiding cystourethrography. MRI,CT,& pelvic US may be performed when clinically indicated to evaluate for a suspected pelvic mass that is causing compression of the bladder or for an adjacent inflammatory process (ex. diverticulitis). Additional studies: urethral and vaginal culture. |
| Interstitial Nephritis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Acute kidney injury (AKI) with increased eosinophils; fever, maculopapular rash, arthralgias; WBC casts = pathognomonic; urine eosinophils |
| Kidney Cyst, Simple | Clinical Intervention | 1. Ultrasound to distinguish it from carcinoma- echoic round mass with smooth & sharply demarcated wall = simple cyst. 2. +/- CT scan - sharp demarcation, smooth/thin wall, homogeneous fluid, no contrast enhancement; slow growth |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Lactic Acidosis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Increased RR/K+/anion gap. Decreased pH, CO ₂ , and bicarb (blood gases). This is usually due to sepsis, yet can also be a complication of metformin. |
| Lactic Acidosis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Increased RR/K+/anion gap. Decreased pH, CO ₂ , and bicarb (blood gases). |
| Medullary Sponge Kidney | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Patients may be asx. +/- recurrent nephrolithiasis or recurrent UTI's, sterile pyuria, renal colic often with hematuria |
| Metabolic Alkalosis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | seen in prolonged vomiting (ex. norovirus in kids; bulimia nervosa); increased bicarb/pH/CO ₂ |
| Minimal Change Disease | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | 80% of Nephrotic syndrome in kids. Etiologies: idiopathic +/- assoc. w/ viral infxns, allergies (ex. insect stings, NSAIDs). |
| Minimal Change Disease | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | No visible cellular changes seen on simple light microscopy but podocyte damage/Loss/fusion/diffuse effacement of the foot processes & loss of negative charge of the glomerular basement membrane. |
| Minimal Change Disease | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Prednisone = Tx of choice. Cytotoxic therapy with Cyclosporine if refractory. |
| Mixed Urinary Incontinence | Mixed Urinary Incontinence | combination of stress + urge. |
| Nephrolithiasis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. UA: microscopic or gross hematuria; nitrites if infectious. Urine pH 5.5-6.8 (calcium oxalate/phosphate), <5.0 (uric acid, cystine), >7.2 (struvite). 2. Non-contrast CT abdomen/pelvis = MC initial diagnostic test 3. Renal Ultrasound: detects stones or complications (hydronephrosis) used if CT is contraindicated 4. KUB radiographs: only calcium & struvite stones are radiopaque (visible on radiographs) 5. IV pyelography = gold standard. Determines extent of obstruction and severity. |
| Nephrolithiasis | Clinical Intervention | May pass on its own (<7 mm), strain urine, extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy (ESWL) if proximal, ureteroscopy + stents if distal, percutaneous nephrolithotomy (most invasive; for > 10 mm stones) |
| Nephrotic Syndrome | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Kidney disease characterized by proteinuria (>3.5 g/day), hypoalbuminemia, hyperlipidemia, & edema. Etiologies: Primary (idiopathic): confined to the kidneys- Minimal change disease, Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis (FSGS), Membranous Nephropathy. Secondary causes: systemic disorders that affect other organs in addition to the kidneys (ex. DM = MC overall cause in adults, SLE, amyloidosis, hepatitis, Sjogren's, sarcoid, meds, infxn, malignancy) |
| Nephrotic Syndrome | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. 24 Hr. Urine Protein Collection = Gold Standard (> 3.5 g/day = nephrotic syndrome) 2. Urinalysis (UA): proteinuria (3+ or 4+ on dipstick). Oval fat bodies; "maltese cross shaped" seen with polarized light microscopy. 3. Hypoalbuminemia (< 3.4 g/dL), hyperlipidemia, +/- increased BUN/Cr 4. Renal Biopsy: may differentiate the types. Usually not needed if minimal change is suspected. |
| Nongonococcal Urethritis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Nucleic acid amplification = most sensitive & specific for both chlamydia and gonorrhea. |
| Paraphimosis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | foreskin becomes trapped behind the corona of the glans and forms a tight band, constricting penile tissues. |
| Paraphimosis | Clinical Intervention | Urologic Emergency! 1. Manual reduction, cool compresses. 2. Pharm: granulated sugar, injection of hyaluronidase. 3. Incision (ex. dorsal slit) |
| Peyronie | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Fibrous scar tissue inside the penis that causes curved, painful erections. Pt. may complain of prevention from having sex or difficulty arriving at or maintaining an erection. For many men, it causes stress/anxiety. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Peyronie | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | associated with Vit. E deficiency, BB's, increased serotonin levels; Dupuytren Contractures & w/ HLA-B7; vascular trauma or injury to penis; associated with erectile dysfunction. RF's: age, obesity, smoking, DM, dyslipidemia, psych issues. |
| Peyronie | Clinical Intervention | Try Vit E and potassium aminobenzoate (PABA); colchicine; injection (collagenase clostridium histolyticum), surgery |
| Peyronie's Disease, Sexual Dysfunction | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Ask about any history of vascular trauma or injury to penis; any erectile dysfunction? Dupuytren contractures? Any hx of psych issues, smoking, obesity, DM, dyslipidemia? Any penile pain? PE: angulation, curvature of penis, palpable plaque |
| Phimosis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | inability to retract foreskin over the glans. Not emergent. |
| Phimosis | Clinical Intervention | Circumcision |
| Polycystic Kidney Disease | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Autosomal dominant disorder due to mutations of either PKD1 or PKD2 genes. Formation of kidney cysts & cysts in other organs (ex. liver, spleen, pancreas) --> ESRD over time. |
| Polycystic Kidney Disease | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Abdominal/flank pain, palpable flank mass (palpable large kidneys on physical exam), HTN, hematuria; Extrarenal: cerebral "berry" aneurysms, hepatic cysts, MVP, colonic diverticula. |
| Polycystic Kidney Disease | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Renal Ultrasound: most widely used 1st line diagnostic test. Genetic testing also done. 2. CT/MRI: more sensitive |
| Polycystic Kidney Disease | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics 02 | 1. Simple cyst: observation, periodic reevaluation. ACEI for HTN 2. Multiple cysts: supportive, increase fluid intake (fluids decrease vasopressin), control HTN (ACEI). +/- Need dialysis or renal transplant. |
| Postoperative Hypovolemia | Clinical Intervention | IV fluids or blood products depending on patient's physiologic reserves |
| Premature Ejaculation | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Topical desensitizing agents (ex. lidocaine, benzocaine, prilocaine) 2. SSRI's (ex. Sertraline, Paroxetine, fluoxetine, citalopram); Dapoxetine 3. PDE-5 inhibitor (ex. Sildenafil, Tadalafil) Others: pindolol, tramadol |
| Priapism | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | prolonged, painful erections. Penis remains erect for hrs. in the absence of stimulation |
| Priapism | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | 1. Ischemic (Low-Flow)- MC: decreased venous outflow; 2. Nonischemic (High-Flow): increased arterial inflow (usually due to perineal or penile trauma) |
| Priapism | Clinical Intervention | Low-Flow (Ischemic): 1. Phenylephrine (intracavernous injection) = 1st line med. 2. Terbutaline (PO or SQ) - may be used if <4hrs. 3. Needle Aspiration to remove blood (esp. if >4 hrs. duration) +/- phenylephrine and ice packs. 4. Shunt surgery if not responsive to medical and aspiration txs. High-Flow: observation (since it's not ischemic) |
| Prostatitis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Acute Prostatitis: > 35 YO: FQ or TMP-SMX x 4-6 weeks (outpt). If hospitalized: IV FQ +/- Aminoglycoside or ampicillin +/- Gentamicin; <35 YO: Ceftriaxone + Doxycycline (or Azithromycin) 2. Chronic Prostatitis: FQ, TMP-SMX x 6-12 weeks. TURP if refractory chronic prostatitis |
| Pyelonephritis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. UA: pyuria (>5 WBC/hpf [esp>10]), (+) leukocyte esterase; WBC casts = pyelonephritis; (+) Nitrites, +/- cloudy urine, bacteriuria 2. Dipstick: (+) leukocyte esterase, nitrites, hematuria 3. Urine Culture = definitive |
| Pyelonephritis | Clinical Intervention | FQ (PO or IV), Aminoglycosides (ex. Gent), TMP-SMX, Cephalosporin Admit for IV fluids + IV abx if severe or complicated pt. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Pyelonephritis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | FQ (PO or IV), Aminoglycosides (ex. Gent), TMP-SMX, Cephalosporin Admit for IV fluids + IV abx if severe or complicated pt. |
| Pyelonephritis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | fever & tachycardia, back/flank pain, (+) CVA tenderness, N/V; WBC casts on UA; pyuria, (+) leukocyte esterase, nitrites, hematuria |
| Renal Calculi | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | pain control (NSAIDs > opioids). Consider antiemetics. With large stones, consider alpha blocker (tamsulosin) |
| Renal Cell Carcinoma | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | 95% of tumors originating in the kidney. RF's: smoking, dialysis, HTN, obesity, men. |
| Renal Cell Carcinoma | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Classic Triad: 1. hematuria, 2. flank/abdominal pain, 3. palpable mass; others: malaise, wt. loss. L-sided varicocele; HTN and hypercalcemia common. |
| Renal Cell Carcinoma | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | CT scan usually 1st test. Renal US, MRI |
| Renal Cell Carcinoma | Clinical Intervention | Stage I-III: radical nephrectomy, immune therapy (interleukin-2); renal cell cancer usually resistant to chemo/radiation. Bilateral involvement or pt. w/ solitary kidney: partial nephrectomy. |
| Renal Cell Carcinoma | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | 95% of tumors originating in the kidney. Tumor of the proximal convoluted renal tubule cells. Characterized by lack of warning signs, variable presentations, & resistance to chemo/radiation. RF's: smoking, dialysis, HTN, obesity, men. |
| Renal Cell Carcinoma | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Triad: 1. hematuria, 2. flank/abdominal pain, 3. palpable mass. Malaise, wt. loss. L-sided varicocele in older male. HTN and Hypercalcemia are common |
| Renal Cell Carcinoma | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | CT scan usually 1st test. Renal US, MRI |
| Renal Cell Carcinoma | Clinical Intervention | Stage I-III: radical nephrectomy. Usually resistant to chemo/radiation. Bilateral or pt with solitary kidney --> partial nephrectomy |
| Renal Failure | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Urine analysis (UA) = most important noninvasive test regarding the etiologies --> casts; Check urine sodium, FeNa, BUN/Cr, response to volume replacement. |
| Respiratory Alkalosis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Increased pH, Decreased PCO2 --> result of anything that causes hyperventilation |
| Scrotal Examination, Normal Findings | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Normal findings: each testicle feels firm but not hard. Surface is smooth, no lumps or bumps. Spongy, tube/rope shape structure felt on top & down the back side of each testicle (epididymis). Hx: Hx of cryptorchidism? Painless nodule, solid mass, dull pain, or testicular heaviness? Abdominal mass, hemoptysis, bone pain (metastatic dz) PE: look for swelling. Hold penis out of the way and examine scrotum. Examine each testicle using both hands, place your index finger and middle finger under the testicle and your thumbs on top. Gently roll the testicle b/w your thumbs and fingers. |
| Testicular Mass | Clinical Intervention | scrotal examination, transillumination, then scrotal US and serum studies (alpha fetoprotein, HCG, LDH) if concerning for neoplasm. |
| Torsion, testicular appendix | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | abrupt onset of scrotal, inguinal or lower abdominal pain (usually < 6hrs), +/- N/V. Swollen/tender/retracted (high-riding) testicle +/- horizontal lie. Negative Prehn's sign (no pain relief with scrotal elevation). Negative (absent) cremaster reflex. "Blue dot sign" |
| Undescended Testicle | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Hx: born premature, low birth weight; any difficulties with subfertility; any hx of testicular torsion or inguinal hernias PE: examine the scrotum; check for inguinal hernia or testicular torsion |
| Ureteral Spasm | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | urgency, frequency, small volume voids, nocturia; urine leakage accompanied by or preceded by urge. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Ureterolithiasis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | drink more fluids (2+ L/day) to increase the amount of urine to lower the concentration of substances that promote stone formation. Diet changes dependent on the type of kidney stone (ex. decrease protein intake) |
| Urge Incontinence | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | urine leakage accompanied by or preceded by the urge. Urgency, frequency, small volume voids, nocturia; "overactive bladder" |
| Urinary Incontinence | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | Bladder training (timed frequent voids, decrease fluid intake); Pelvic floor exercises (Kegel exercises, biofeedback) |
| Urinary Retention | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | A post-void residual; Ultrasound the bladder; if do to BPH, do a DRE +/- check PSA. |
| Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | RF's: sexual intercourse, "honeymoon cystitis", spermicidal use (esp. w/ diaphragm), pregnancy, postmenopausal; Rare for males to get UTI's; If child/neonate--> suspect Vesicoureteral Reflux (VUR); DM, catheters; E. coli = MC; usually ascending infxn. |
| Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | dysuria (burning), increased frequency, urgency, hematuria, suprapubic discomfort, pyuria, (+) leukocyte esterase, nitrites |
| Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. UA: pyuria, leukocyte esterase, nitrites, hematuria +/- cloudy urine, bacteriuria 2. Dipstick: leukocyte esterase, nitrites, hematuria, WBC's 3. Urine culture = definitive |
| Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | increase fluid intake, void after intercourse, Phenazopyridine (Pyridium) turns urine orange/not used more than 48 hours due to SE (methemoglobinuria, hemolytic anemia) |
| Varicocele | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | "bag of worms" superior to the testicle. Usually painless +/- dull ache/heavy sensation. Dilation decreases if supine or with testicular elevation. Worsens when upright or with valsalva. |
| Varicocele | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | cystic testicular mass of varicose veins. MC on L-side b/c left spermatic vein enters the left renal vein at 90 degree angle. Most common surgically correctable cause of infertility in men. |
| Varicocele | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Possible hx w/ difficulty reproducing (infertility). Any hx of dull aching/heavy sensation; Ask if it's worse when upright or with Valsalva/relieved when supine or with testicular elevation. Ask about any family hx of cancer. PE: palpate the testicle; have patient perform Valsalva maneuver; elevate the testicle |
| Varicocele | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | Dilation decreases if supine or with testicular elevation. Worsens when upright or with Valsalva. Sudden onset of L-sided varicocele in older man --> suspect renal cell carcinoma. R-sided varicocele in children < 10 YO --> possible retroperitoneal malignancy. |
| Varicocele | Clinical Intervention | Observe most. Surgery (spermatic vein ligation, varicocelectomy) |
| Vesicoureteral Reflux (VUR) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | retrograde regurgitation of urine from bladder up the ureter and into the collecting system of the kidneys. Causes UTI's or fever + kidney infxn. Suspect VUR in children/neonate with a UTI or with a fever of unknown origin. |
| Wilms Tumor (Nephroblastoma) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | MC in children within the first 5 years of life. MC abdominal malignancy in children. Associated with other GU abnormalities (ex. Cryptorchidism, hypospadias, horseshoe kidney). Lung = common site for METS. |
| Wilms Tumor (Nephroblastoma) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Painless palpable abdominal mass = MC (does not cross midline). Hematuria, HTN, anemia |
| Wilms Tumor (Nephroblastoma) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Abdominal ultrasound = best initial test. CT w/ contrast or MRI is more accurate. |
| Wilms Tumor (Nephroblastoma) | Clinical Intervention | 1. Nephrectomy followed by chemotherapy. 2. Post surgery radiation therapy if extends beyond renal capsule, pulmonary METS or large tumor. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| NEUROLOGY | | |
| Abdominal pain | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Hx of any previous abdominal surgeries, constipation, bowel habits, last bowel movement. Any hx of potentially eating foods that could cause diarrhea; hx of drinking from remote streams/wells; menstrual hx; medication hx, etc. PE: perform thorough abdominal exam |
| Acute Delirium | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | antipsychotic meds (ex. Risperidone, Olanzapine, Quetiapine). Benzos for alcohol & benzo withdrawal states (ex. Lorazepam) + give Thiamine and B12. |
| Akathisia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Antihistamine. Stop enticing medicine. Maybe beta blocker. |
| Alzheimer | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Dx of exclusion. Rule out other causes. Cognitive testing. |
| AML | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Bone marrow: Auer Rods & >20% blasts. MC acute leukemia in adults > 50 YO. Pancytopenia, splenomegaly, gingival hyperplasia, leukocytosis (WBC > 100,000), bone pain. |
| Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | off balance, instability, weakness in upper extremities, fasciculations, +/- atrophy. Associated with military, air force, and athletes. Sensation, urinary sphincter, and voluntary eye movements are spared. Loss of ability to initiate/control motor movements. Mixed upper & lower motor neuron signs. |
| Basilar Skull Fracture | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Hx of blunt trauma. On PE look for signs of trauma, hematomas, bruising behind the ears, bruising around the eyes, or blood behind the ear drum. Assess for any CSF fluid leaking from the nose or ear. |
| Bell Palsy | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | can be associated with reactivation of HSV or Lyme Disease. May recur. MC on R-side. Function returns in 2 weeks with significant improvement within 4 weeks with or without tx. Taste improves before motor recovery. May want to tape eye shut at night; eye drops. |
| Bell Palsy | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Prednisone (esp if started in first 72 hours of sx onset). 2. Artificial tears, +/- eye patch, tape eye shut to sleep. 3. Acyclovir in severe cases. |
| C5 Nerve Root, Normal Function | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | C5 controls the deltoids and the biceps. The C5 dermatome covers the outer part of the upper arm down to about the elbow. |
| Cervical Radiculopathy | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | pain, weakness, numbness, or difficulty controlling specific muscles. Exacerbated with head movement. |
| CN III Disorder | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | oculomotor nerve. PE: inferior rectus, ciliary body. Abnormalities: oculomotor, dilated pupil. |
| Complex Regional Pain Syndrome | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | pain out of proportion to exam, but with physical exam findings such as skin changes (like a really painful focal Raynaud's disease), Psychiatric history. |
| Complex Regional Pain Syndrome | Clinical Intervention | Early mobilization after injury, NSAIDs. PT/OT. Pain: amitriptyline, nortriptyline, gabapentin, lamotrigine; calcitonin as adjunct. Tx failure --> try bisphosphonates, IVIG, regional nerve block, dorsal column stimulation +/- behavior management therapy. Vit C prophylaxis after fractures may decrease incidence. |
| Cranial nerve III palsy | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | damage results in pt being unable to move their eye normally. In addition, the nerve also supplies the upper eyelid muscle (levator palpebrae superioris) and the muscles responsible for pupil constriction (sphincter pupillae) |
| Critical Illness Polyneuropathy | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Syndromes of diffuse, symmetric, flaccid muscle weakness occurring in critically ill patients and involving all extremities and the diaphragm with relative sparing of the cranial nerves. |
| Dementia, Adverse drug effect | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Want to avoid anticholinergics, opiates, and benzos |
| Dementia, Alzheimer disease | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Keep patient on a consistent schedule, write small reminders, engage in activities that help the patient think (ex. reading, crossword puzzles, etc.), keep a clock around to help patient stay oriented to time, label meds, etc. Advise pt not to cook when home alone. Maintain a regular sleep/wake schedule. Pt may need around the clock care/supervision as disease progresses. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|---|--|---|
| Encephalopathy, Bovine Spongiform | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Mad cow disease via consumption of infected cattle meat. Transmitted to humans via a prion (protein). Rapid mental deterioration within few months --> coma. Difference b/w encephalopathy & meningitis - AMS (viral encephalopathy has AMS); spread to human--> variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. |
| Epidural Hematoma | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | temporal injury (MC temporal skull fracture). Unresponsive, then alert, then unresponsive. CT shows convex (lens-shaped) bleed that does not cross suture lines. |
| Epilepsy, generalized convulsive | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | loss of consciousness, rigidity, sudden arrest of respiration, repetitive/rhythmic jerking lasting <2-3 min); flaccid coma/sleep; may be accompanied by incontinence, tongue biting, or aspiration with postictal confusion. Auras are pre-warnings to seizures. |
| Epilepsy, Simple Partial | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | consciousness fully maintained. EEG shows focal discharge at the onset of the seizure. May be followed by transient neurologic deficit (Todd's paralysis) lasting up to 24 hrs. |
| GC Meningitis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | vaccine (in pts > 55YO & high risk pts ex. asplenia); tx close contacts- if you're around someone w/ GC, you are treated w/ Ciprofloxacin 500 mg PO x 1 dose or Rifampin 600 mg PO q12 hrs x 2 days. |
| Guillain-Barre Syndrome | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | "GBS"- ground to brain symptoms (ascending weakness); usually symmetric. Sometimes caused by campylobacter jejuni or a preceding respiratory or GI infxn. Decreased DTR's (LMN lesion); breathing difficulties |
| Guillain-Barre Syndrome | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Hx of infxn w/ campylobacter or a preceding respiratory or GI infxn. PE: ascending weakness; usually symmetric. Decreased DTR's; breathing difficulties. |
| Guillain-Barre Syndrome | Clinical Intervention | 1. Plasmapheresis best if done early. 2. Intravenous Immune Globulin (IVIG) equally as effective as plasmapheresis. 3. Mechanical ventilation if respiratory failure. Prednisone is contraindicated. |
| Headache | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | sudden (SAH) or gradual; chronic (migraines); fever (meningitis); nuchal rigidity (SAH or meningitis); males w/ unilateral lancinating pain and Horner's-like syndrome (cluster). |
| Headache, Postdural puncture | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Diagnostic hallmark: postural HA that worsens with sitting/standing and improves when supine. Pressure issue. |
| Headache, Postdural puncture | Clinical Intervention | Bed rest, hydration, caffeine; epidural blood patch (HA gone in seconds) if conservative management fails. |
| Huntington Disease | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | autosomal dominant neurodegenerative disorder; mutation of chromosome 4; decreased GABA & substance P. |
| Huntington Disease | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Sxs usually appear 30-50YO. Initially behavioral changes then chorea and then development of dementia usually before 50 YO. Brisk DTR's; gait abnormalities/ ataxia/unsteadiness. |
| Huntington Disease | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | CT Scan: cerebral and caudate nucleus atrophy. MRI shows similar findings; genetic testing; PET scan: decreased glucose metabolism in caudate nucleus and putamen. |
| Huntington Disease | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | No cure. Usually fatal within 15-20 years of presentation. Chorea management with antidopaminergics - typical & atypical antipsychotics, tetrabenazine. Benzos for sleep & chorea. No med stops disease progression. |
| Lateral Medullary (Wallenberg) Syndrome | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | head impulsive, nystagmus, test of skew (HINTS) examination of oculomotor function is often performed, along with CT or MRI to assist in stroke detection. |
| Lesion, brain (basal ganglion) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | problems with speech, movement, and posture; "parkinsonism" |
| Lesion, brain (cerebellum) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | causes dyssynergia, dysmetria, dysarthria, and ataxia of stance & gait; on same side of body as the lesion (ipsilateral) |
| Meningioma, cerebral | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | CT scan or MRI with contrast: intensely enhancing, well-defined lesion often attached to the dura. Brain biopsy usually guided by imaging studies. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Meningitis, bacterial, acute | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | < 1 month: Ampicillin + Cefotaxime or Aminoglycoside. 1 month-50 YO: Ceftriaxone (or Cefotaxime) + Vancomycin. > 50 YO: Ampicillin + Ceftriaxone (or Cefotaxime) +/- Vancomycin. Dexamethasone recommended if known or suspected streptococcus pneumoniae (also in children if due to Hib to reduce hearing loss). Post-exposure prophylaxis: Ciprofloxacin or Rifampin |
| Meningococcal Meningitis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | vaccine (in pts > 55YO & high risk pts ex. asplenia); tx close contacts- if you're around someone w/ GC, you are treated w/ Ciprofloxacin 500 mg PO x 1 dose or Rifampin 600 mg PO q12 hrs x 2 days. |
| Meningococcal Meningitis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | caused by Neisseria meningitidis (gram - diplococci). Positive Kernig's/Brudzinski's sign; Head CT scan to r/o mass --> LP |
| Migraine | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | lateralized, pulsatile/throbbing headache associated with N/V, photophobia & phonophobia usually lasts 4-72 hours. May be bilateral. Worse with physical activity, stress, lack/excessive sleep, ETOH, specific foods (ex. chocolate, red wine), OCPs/ menstruation. Auras often present prior to headache onset: visual changes MC (ex. light flashes (photopsia), scotomas (blind spots); numbness, weakness. |
| Migraine | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Symptomatic (abortive): triptans or ergotamine, dopamine blockers (ex. Metoclopramide, promethazine, prochlorperazine) often given with diphenhydramine to prevent EPS, IV fluids & place pt in dark/quiet room; Mild sx: NSAIDs/acetaminophen 1st line. Caffeine may help. 2. Prophylactic: anti-HTN meds (BB, CCB), TCAs, anticonvulsants (valproate, topiramate), NSAID |
| Multiple Sclerosis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | autoimmune, inflammatory demyelinating disease of the CNS. Axon degeneration of white matter of the brain, optic nerve & spinal cord. Three types: relapsing-remitting dz (MC), progressive, and secondary progressive. |
| Multiple Sclerosis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Sensory deficits (pain, fatigue, numbness/paresthesia in limbs; trigeminal neuralgia; sx worse w/ heat, exercise, hot tubs (Uhthoff's phenomenon); neck flexion causes lightning-shock pain from spine down the leg (Lhermitte's sign); Optic neuritis (unilateral eye pain worse w/ movement); vision loss (esp. color); Marcus-Gunn pupil; Upper motor neuron = spasticity & (+) upward Babinski. |
| Multiple Sclerosis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Mainly a clinical dx - at least 2 discrete episodes of exacerbations. 1. MRI w/ Gadolinium = test of choice to help confirm MS- white matter plaques (hyperdensities) = hallmark. Proof of at least 2 areas of white matter involvement. 2. Lumbar puncture: Increased IgG (oligoclonal bands) in CSF |
| Multiple Sclerosis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Acute Exacerbations: IV high-dose corticosteroids = 1st line. Plasmapheresis if refractory. 2. Relapsing-Remitting/Progressive Dz: Beta-interferon or glatiramer acetate (copaxone) to decrease #/severity of relapses. Amantadine for fatigue. Baclofen & Diazepam for spasticity. |
| Myasthenia Gravis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | strongest in the morning; weakest in the evening. Autoimmune disorder of peripheral nerves. Inefficient skeletal muscle neuromuscular transmission due to autoimmune antibodies against acetylcholine (nicotinic) post-synaptic receptors @ the neuromuscular junction (decreased Ach receptors). 75% have thymic abnormality (hyperplasia or thymoma). Common in young women. Can occur post-partum. Refer to neurology. |
| Myasthenia Gravis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | AChR-Ab, MuSK Ab assays; EMG; Edrophonium (Tensilon) Test: rapid response to short-acting IV edrophonium. Ice pack test: ocular MG is improved when ice pack is placed on eye for 10 min (ptosis improved). CT scan or MRI of chest may show thymoma. |
| Myasthenia Gravis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Acetylcholinesterase Inhibitors: Pyridostigmine or Neostigmine = 1st line. 2. Immunosuppression: Plasmapheresis or IVIG used in myasthenia crisis for rapid response. Chronic immunosuppression with corticosteroids; azathioprine or cyclosporine as steroid alternatives. 3. Thymectomy if thymoma. Avoid FQ's or aminoglycosides. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| Myasthenia Gravis | Clinical Intervention | Thymectomy if thymoma. |
| Neoplasm, brain | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Glioblastoma: MC and most aggressive of all the primary CNS tumors in adults. Focal deficits most common; frontal lobe: dementia, personality changes, gait abnormalities, expressive aphasia, seizures. Temporal lobe: partial complex & generalized seizures. Parietal lobe: receptive aphasia, contralateral sensory loss, hemianopia, spatial disorientation. Occipital lobe: contralateral homonymous hemianopia. Thalamus: contralateral sensory loss. Brainstem: papillary changes, nystagmus, hemiparesis. Increased intracranial pressure leads to headache, nausea, vomiting, papilledema, ataxia, drowsiness, stupor. |
| Nerve Disorder, Oculomotor | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | oculomotor CN III. Physical exam: EOM's. control all EOM's except lateral rectus and superior oblique. PE: inferior rectus, ciliary body (abnormality would show issues with EOM's and have a dilated pupil). |
| Nerve injury, median | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Aka carpal tunnel syndrome; worse at night; palmar aspect of thumb, pointer, and middle finger; increased incidence with DM. Thenar muscle wasting if advanced. |
| Nerve injury, median | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | entrapment/compression at the carpal tunnel. Paresthesia & pain of the palmar first 3 digits especially at night. |
| Nerve injury, peroneal | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Provides sensation to the lateral leg. Innervated the peroneus longus, peroneus brevis, and the short head of the biceps femoris muscles. Injuries can lead to foot drop. |
| Neurogenic Shock | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | a type of distributive shock: maldistribution of blood flow from essential organs to nonessential organs. Excess vasodilation & altered distribution of blood flow (increased venous capacity) with shunting of blood flow from vital organs (ex. heart, kidneys) to non-vital tissues (ex. skin, skeletal muscle). Hallmark: decreased CO, decreased SVR, decreased PCWP. Neurogenic shock is due to acute spinal cord injury or regional anesthesia. Autonomic sympathetic blockade --> unopposed increased vagal tone --> bradycardia & hypotension. Warm, dry skin, normal or decreased HR, wide pulse pressure. |
| Neuropathy, ulnar nerve | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Ask about any pain, numbness or weakness in the little finger/ulnar half of the ring finger. Worse with elbow flexion. PE: (+) Tinel's sign at the elbow; (+) Froment's sign -holds paper & compensates with flexion of IP joint - pinching effect. |
| Normal function, vagus nerve | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | CN X (10). Motor: voice, soft palate, gag reflex. Sensory: relays to the brain sensory information about organs (ex. GI, pulmonary heart). |
| Parkinson Disease | Clinical Intervention | Exercise programs recommended. Levodopa/Carbidopa = most effective tx; Dopamine agonists (bromocriptine, pramipexole, ropinirole) have less SE's than levodopa; used in young pt to delay use of levodopa. Anticholinergics: ex. Benztropine in < 70 YO w/ tremor predominance. Amantadine, Selective MAO-B Inhibitors (selegiline, rasagiline), COMT Inhibitors (entacapone) |
| Post concussion Syndrome | Clinical Intervention | Cognitive and physical rest is the main management of patients with concussion. Patients may resume strenuous activity after resolution of sx's & recovery of memory & cognitive functions. |
| Restless Leg Syndrome | Clinical Intervention | If RLS is not linked to an underlying cause, its frequency may be reduced by lifestyle mods such as improve sleep hygiene, regular exercise, and stop smoking. Meds may include dopamine agonists or gabapentin. |
| Restless Leg Syndrome | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Dopamine Agonists = TOC (ex. Pramipexole, Ropinirole). 2. Alpha-2-delta calcium channel ligands (ex. gabapentin, pregabalin) 3. Benzos as adjunct (ex. clonazepam) 4. Opioids in disease resistant cases. 5. Iron supplement in pts with serum ferritin < 75 mcg/L |
| Seizure Disorder | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Can't drive unless balance on meds (seizure-free) for a period of 2 years. Bupropion (Wellbutrin) lowers seizure threshold. Tdap= can't give to kids w/ seizure disorder. Avoid ETOH, nicotine; get good sleep; decrease stress |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Stroke | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Hx: of previous thrombotic events, emboli; any hx of stasis, damage, or hypercoagulability. Hx of HTN, HA, vomiting, impaired consciousness, ataxia, aphasia, neglect to one side of body, impaired speech, personality changes, confusion, hallucinations, double vision, etc. PE: look for hemiparesis, hemiplegia, gait ataxia, check vision, check for hemianopsia, urinary incontinence, drop attacks, vertigo, nystagmus, diplopia, meningeal irritation/nuchal rigidity, focal neurologic sx, etc. |
| Subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | sudden onset of HA - "thunderclap" HA; "worst HA of my life" |
| Subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | CT is first line. If negative, then an LP looking for blood or xanthochromia. 4-vessel angiography after confirmed SAH. |
| Subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH) | Clinical Intervention | Send to/refer to interventional neurology for surgical coiling or clipping. |
| Subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Nimodipine, Nicardipine, Labetalol to lower BP. Supportive: bed rest, stool softeners. Decrease ICP: mannitol, hyperventilation, head elevation +/- shunt |
| Subdural Hematoma | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | CT: concave (crescent-shaped) bleed; bleeding can cross suture lines. |
| Suprascapular nerve entrapment | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | The suprascapular nerve is a mixed (motor and sensory) nerve that supplies the supraspinatus and infraspinatus muscles (part of rotator cuff muscles). Injury can be from trauma, rotator cuff tears, fractures of the scapula or clavicle, dislocation of the shoulder, gunshot/stab injuries to shoulder, or an injury that results in stretching of the nerve. Compression of the nerve can be caused by tumors or ganglion cysts, thickened or calcified suprascapular ligament, congenital structural changes of the scapular bone. Pt will present with shoulder/arm weakness or heaviness, radiating/burning pain to the neck/back/or arm, pain that worsens with shoulder movement, loss of shoulder function; atrophy, wasting or shrinking of upper shoulder muscles. |
| Tardive Dyskinesia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Clonazepam, valbenazine (Ingrezza), deutetrabenazine (Austedo). Clozapine is a good drug if pt has tardive dyskinesia but requires antipsychotic tx (ex. for schizophrenia). |
| Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | transient episode of neurological deficits caused by focal brain, spinal cord, or retinal ischemia without acute infarction. Often lasting <24 hours- most resolve in 30-60 min. MC due to embolus (ex. heart, carotid, vertebrobasilar) or transient hypotension. 50% of pts with TIA will have a CVA within 1st 24-48 hours afterwards (esp if DM, HTN). 10-20% will experience CVA within 90 days. |
| Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | CT scan of head = initial test of choice to rule out intracranial hemorrhage. Carotid doppler; CT angiography, MRA. Blood glucose to rule out hypoglycemia, rule out electrolyte abnormalities, coagulation studies, CBC. Echocardiogram (TTE or TEE) to look for embolic sources. EKG to look for a-fib. ABCD2 score to assess CVA risk. |
| Trigeminal neuralgia (tic douloureux) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Carbamazepine (Tegretol) 1st line. Oxcarbazepine. Gabapentin (Neurontin), Baclofen. |
| Trigeminal Neuralgia | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | CN5; associated with MS; sharp burning pain that radiates from mouth towards ear. Pain is intermittent, excruciating, lasting a few seconds and is worse with eating or touching face. |
| Trigeminal Neuralgia | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Hx: brief, episodic, stabbing/lancinating pain in the 2nd/3rd division of trigeminal nerve (CN5), lasting seconds-mins; worse with touch, eating, drafts of wind, and movement; any hx of MS? PE: usually unilateral; pain starts near mouth and shoots to the eye, ear, & nostril on the ipsilateral side. |
| Trigeminal Neuralgia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Carbamazepine (Tegretol) 1st line. Oxcarbazepine. Gabapentin (Neurontin), Baclofen. |
| Tumor Lysis Syndrome | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | complication of induction treatment w/ chemo in AML pts. 48-72 hours after induction tx, large # of cells being destroyed --> hyperuricemia, hypocalcemia, hyperkalemia, hyperphosphatemia, acute renal failure |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| Tumor Lysis Syndrome | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Allopurinol, IV fluids |
| Ulnar Nerve Entrapment | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | pain, numbness, or weakness in the little finger, ulnar half of the ring finger and intrinsic muscles. |
| Upper Motor Neuron Lesions | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Etiologies: stroke (CVA), multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, brain or spinal cord damage (ex. traumatic brain injury). Paralysis: spastic paralysis (hypertonia) with increased DTR's. No fasciculations; Upward Babinski reflex; Little or no muscle atrophy. |
| Viral Meningitis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Enterovirus MC (ex. coxsackie, echovirus); chemistries: normal glucose, normal/mild increase in proteins, nothing on gram stain (culture negative), lymphocytes predominate; HA, neck stiffness, Brudzinski/Kernig |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|---|--|--|
| PSYCHIATRY/BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE | | |
| ADHD | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | difficulty paying attention, controlling behaviors, & hyperactivity. Sx onset before age 12 & present for at least 6 months. Sxs must occur in at least 2 settings (ex. home & school). |
| ADHD | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Behavior Modification; 2. Sympathomimetics (stimulants) = TOC [ex. Methylphenidate (Ritalin), Amphetamine/dextroamphetamine (Adderall), Dexmethylphenidate (Focalin)]; 3. Nonstimulants: Atomoxetine (Strattera)- selective norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor (SNRI) |
| Adverse Effect, Electroconvulsive Therapy | Clinical Intervention | MC side effect = short-term memory loss (retrograde amnesia); increased HR & BP during procedure; HA, nausea, muscle aches/soreness, disorientation and confusion, fatigue. If adverse effects --> stop the procedure??? |
| Agoraphobia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | SSRI's, SNRI's; psychotherapy: combo of exposure therapy, relaxation, and breathing training. |
| Alcohol Dependence, Withdrawal | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. IV benzo. 2. IV fluids & supplementation: IV thiamine & magnesium (prior to glucose), multivitamins (including Vit B12/Folate), IV fluids + Dextrose. 3. Avoid meds that decrease seizure threshold if possible (ex. Bupropion, Haloperidol, anticonvulsants, clonidine, BB) |
| Alcohol Use Disorder | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | CAGE screening: >2 is (+): Cut down, Annoyed when people criticize, Guilt, Eye opener/morning drink; Alcohol abuse becomes dependence when withdrawal sxs develop or tolerance. |
| Anorexia Nervosa | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | BMI < 17.5 k/m ² ...or.. Body weight < 85% of ideal weight. Labs: leukocytosis, leukoemia, anemia, hypokalemia, increased BUN (dehydration), hypothyroidism may show osteopenia/osteoporosis on DEXA scan |
| Anorexia Nervosa | Clinical Intervention | Medical stabilization (hospitalization for <75% expected weight or complications). Electrolyte imbalance --> cardiac abnormality. Psychotherapy: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, supervised meals, wt. monitoring. Get primary care and psych follow-up if treating inpatient. |
| Anorexia Nervosa | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | if depressed --> SSRI's, atypical antipsychotics. No Bupropion w/ eating disorders and seizures. Calcium & Vit D, estrogen --> for osteopenia |
| Antisocial Personality Disorder | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | > 18 YO; deviating sharply from norms, values, & laws of society; may commit criminal acts without regard to laws; 3x more common in males; lack of empathy, manipulative, deceitful, lacks remorse, lies often, endangers others (ex. drunk driving) |
| Autism Spectrum Disorder | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Difficulties w/ social interaction & communication; restricted & repetitive behavior; avoid eye contact; no response to affection. Poor Development: no response to name (or eye-to-eye gaze) by 6 mo; No babbling by 12 mo; no gesturing (point, wave, etc.) by 12 mo; No single words by 16 mo; No two-word phrases by 24 months. Loss of any language or social skills at any age. |
| Bipolar Disorder | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Bipolar I: > 1 manic or mixed episode which often cycles with occasional depressive episodes (but major depressive episodes are not required for the diagnosis) Bipolar II: > 1 Hypomanic episode + > 1 major depressive episode. Mania or mixed episodes are absent. |
| Bipolar Disorder | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Benefits from adding group psychoeducation to pharmacotherapy. Family Hx (1st degree relative) is strongest risk factor. Onset usually 20's-30's (earlier onset = worse prognosis) |
| Bipolar Disorder | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Mood Stabilizers: Lithium = 1st line; valproic acid, carbamazepine; 2nd gen antipsychotics (ex. Olanzapine). Haloperidol or Benzo may be added if psychosis or agitation develops. Other txs include: electroconvulsive therapy, MAOI's, SSRI's, & TCA's (however, antidepressant meds may precipitate mania) |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--|--|--|
| Brief Psychotic Disorder | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | > 1 psychotic sx(s) with onset & remission < 1 month > 1 psychotic sx(s) with onset & remission < 1 month > 1 psychotic sx(s) with onset & remission < 1 month |
| Bulimia Nervosa | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Hypokalemia & Hypomagnesemia; Normal or overweight; Metabolic alkalosis from vomiting. |
| Bulimia Nervosa | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | normal or overweight; binge eating --> compensatory behavior; teeth pitting/enamel erosion; Russell's sign= calluses on dorsum of hand. |
| Bulimia Nervosa | Clinical Intervention | CBT and Fluoxetine (Prozac) |
| Cocaine Abuse | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Benzo +/- antipsychotics for agitation |
| Conduct Disorder, Childhood-onset type | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Poor prognosis. 40% develop antisocial personality disorder. MC in boys. |
| Depressive Disorder | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Persistent Depressive Disorder (Dysthymia): chronic depressed mood > 2 yrs in adults (1 yr in kids/adolescents). Usually more mild than MDD. In that 2 yrs, pt is not sx free for > 2 mo at a time. |
| Dissociative Fugue | Clinical Intervention | Take to psych for psychotherapy |
| Domestic Violence | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Educate patient that he/she can get help. Provide hotline numbers/online chat resources. |
| Drug overdose, analgesics | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Opioid analgesic overdose encompasses a range of clinical findings: respiratory depression, miosis, stupor, hepatic injury from acetaminophen or hypoxemia, myoglobinuria, rhabdomyolysis, absent or hypoactive bowel sounds, compartment syndrome, hypothermia, etc. |
| Episodic Insomnia Disorder | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Encourage/Educate about good sleep hygiene (bed is for sleep & sex only; avoid caffeine late in the day; daily exercise; maintain a regular sleep schedule for bedtime and waking; avoid naps, etc.) |
| Illness Anxiety Disorder | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | previously termed hypochondriasis. Preoccupation with the fear or belief one has or will contract a serious, undiagnosed disease (despite reassurance and medical workups showing no disease). Sxs lasts > 6 months. Somatic sxs usually not present (or mild); care-seeking type: frequently get tested, "doctor shop" |
| Insomnia | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Encourage/educate about good sleep hygiene, relaxation, biofeedback, stimulus control, sleep restriction, cognitive therapy, CBT, phototherapy, chronotherapy. Discourage alcohol at bedtime. Limit screen time before bed. |
| Major Depressive Disorder | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Clinical: depressed mood or anhedonia (loss of pleasure) or loss of interest in activities with > 5 associated sxs almost every day for most days for at least 2 weeks: fatigue, insomnia or hypersomnia, feels of guilt or worthlessness, recurring thoughts of death or suicide, psychomotor agitation, significant wt. gain (gain or loss), decreased or increased appetite, psychomotor agitation, decreased concentration/indecisiveness. The sxs are not due to substance use, bereavement or medical conditions. Absence of mania or hypomania. |
| Major Depressive Disorder | Clinical Intervention | 1. CBT (psychotherapy) |
| Major Depressive Disorder | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | SSRI's: use 3-6 weeks to determine efficacy |
| Narcissistic Personality Disorder | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | grandiose often excessive sense of self-importance but needs praise & admiration (fragile self-esteem). MC in males; reacts to rejection/criticism with rage. |
| Nicotine Dependence, Smoking Cessation | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | 1. CBT + OTC gym/nasal spray/patch; 2. Bupropion (Zyban); 3. Varenicline (Chantix); Smoking hotline #'s; Counsel pt. |
| Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | anxiety disorder characterized by combination of: 1. obsessions: recurrent or persistent thought/images; thoughts are inappropriate, intrusive, & unwanted. Pt tries to ignore/suppress the obsessions. 2. Compulsions: repetitive behaviors person feels driven to perform. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--|---|---|
| Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) | Clinical Intervention | CBT: Exposure & Response Prevention (ERP) --> habituation. Traditional Psychotherapy ("talk therapy") for pts. with insight. Also family support & education. Medication: SSRI (Fluoxetine), SNRI (Venlafaxine) |
| Overdose | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Drug screen, blood alcohol level, acetaminophen level, aspirin level; CBC, CMP, EKG; Consider VBG/ABG/CO-OX if inhalant suspected. |
| Panic Disorder | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | recurrent unexpected panic attacks; an attack followed by a month of persistent concern/worry about another/consequence and/or maladaptive behavior change (avoidance). Not attributable to substance/drug or other medical condition |
| Panic Disorder | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Long-term Mgmt.: 1st line = SSRI; CBT to focus on thinking/behavior (ex. relaxation, desensitization, examine behavior consequences). 2. Acute Attacks: Benzos |
| Postoperative Psychosis | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Pt with a recent hx of surgery that required anesthesia --> psychosis |
| Postpartum Depression | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | antidepressants (ex. SSRI); brexanolone (Zulresso)- FDA approved in 2019 |
| Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder (PMDD) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | severe PMS w/ functional impairment. Cluster of physical, behavioral, and mood changes with cyclical occurrence during luteal phase of menstrual cycle. |
| Psychogenic Polydipsia | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Dilute urine 1:005 & low sodium |
| Psychosis, unspecified | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 2nd generation antipsychotics = 1st line (ex. Risperidone, Olanzapine, Quetiapine; clozapine for refractory cases (ex. no significant improvement after 2-6 weeks of pharm therapy). First generation antipsychotics (ex. Haloperidol & Chlorpromazine) are better for treating (+) sx's but are associated with increased extrapyramidal sx's. Other meds: benzisoxazoles (ex. Risperidone); Quinolines (Abilify), Lithium; Valproate, carbamazepine |
| Schizoaffective Disorder | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Schizophrenia + mood disturbance (MDD or manic episode). |
| Schizoid Personality Disorder | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | voluntary social withdrawal, loner, hermit, reclusive, isolated, anhedonia introversion (appears indifferent/cold, lacks response to praise/criticism, flat affect) and inability to form relationships |
| Schizophrenia | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | > 6 months duration of illness with 1 month of acute sx's along with functional decline. Onset usually early 20's (males) and late 20's (females); Risk factor: fm hx; Decreased CNS gray matter, increased size of ventricles; increased CNS dopamine receptors. Ask about positive vs. negative sx's in hx. |
| Schizophrenia | Clinical Intervention | Hospitalization for acute psychotic episodes |
| Schizophrenia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 2nd generation antipsychotics = 1st line (ex. Risperidone, Olanzapine, Quetiapine; clozapine for refractory cases (ex. no significant improvement after 2-6 weeks of pharm therapy). First generation antipsychotics (ex. Haloperidol & Chlorpromazine) are better to tx (+) sx's |
| Schizophreniform Disorder | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | Meets criteria for schizophrenia but < 6 months duration. |
| Serotonin Discontinuation Syndrome | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Reinstitution of antidepressant medication. |
| Shaken Baby Syndrome | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Ask if any hx of abuse, postpartum depression, etc. Observe child for any signs of abuse, bruising, etc. Look for old fractures on x-ray. Shaken baby syndrome often produces bilateral retinal hemorrhage and diffuse brain injury. May have blunt head trauma. May present with seizure. Other sx's include failure to thrive, poor feeding. Look for hx from parent that does not make sense for the resulting injury. |
| Somatic Symptom Disorder (Somatization Disorder) | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | chronic condition in which pt has physical sx's involving > 1 part of the body but no physical cause can be found; excessive thoughts, feelings, or behaviors/time devoted to sx's/health concerns. Pain= predominant sx |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Substance Abuse, Ecstasy | Formulating Most Likely Diagnosis | MC in young party goer; Vitals: HTN, tachycardia, hyperthermia. Hyponatremia due to increased fluid intake --> neuro sx's (confusion, seizure, cerebral edema, cerebral herniation, death). Hepatotoxicity: jaundice, abdominal pain, N/V, increased bilirubin, increased AST/ALT |
| Substance Use Disorder, Nicotine | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Ask about hx of tobacco use/smoking hx. Look for signs of yellowing of the fingers/nails from holding cigarettes. May observe smell of nicotine on pt's hair/clothing. Agitation if attempts to withdraw. May have weight gain if attempting to cease. |
| Suicide Risk | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Females more likely to attempt; males more likely to complete suicide. RF's include: previous attempt or threat (strongest RF), majorly depressed states, males, increased age, Caucasians, substance abuse, not married>never married>widowed>separated or divorced>married without children>married with children (marriage is protective). Others include positive family hx of suicide, history of impulsivity, or chronic illness. Physicians at increased risk of suicide |
| Tardive Dyskinesia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Switch to 2nd generation antipsychotic; 2. deutetrabenazine (Austedo); 3. Valbenazine (Ingrezza) |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| DERMATOLOGY | | |
| Acne Vulgaris | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Clinical dx. Hyperandrogenism should be considered if there are other signs of androgen excess (test for DHEA-S, total testosterone, free testosterone, etc.) |
| Basal Cell Carcinoma | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | punch or shave biopsy |
| Basal Cell Carcinoma | Clinical Intervention | 1. Electrodesiccation/curettage used MC in non-facial; 2. +/- Mohs for face or recurrent; 3. Surgical excision; 4. Small superficial: imiquimod & 5FU for superficial non-facial lesions. |
| Basal Cell Carcinoma | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | translucent/pearly/waxy papule & central ulceration; raised/rolled borders; telangiectasias; bleeds easily |
| Bullous Pemphigoid | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | urticarial plaques --> tense bullae (don't rupture easily); Lack of Nikolsky's sign; Subepidermal involvement. Chronic widespread autoimmune blistering skin disease of the elderly (65-75 YO). |
| Bullous Pemphigoid | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | High potency topical corticosteroids (such as clobetasol). Systemic corticosteroids, antihistamines. Immunosuppressants (Azathioprine). Topical corticosteroids in mild disease or applied early to lesions to prevent blisters. |
| Burns, unspecified | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | wash wound using only mild soap & water. Do not apply ice directly. Cool compresses to stop thermal burning. Chemical burns: irrigate profusely with running water for at least 20 minutes. Debridement. Ruptured blisters should be removed. Pain: acetaminophen, NSAIDs alone or in combo w/ opioids. Abx: silver sulfadiazine (none on face); Bacitracin on superficial burns. IV fluids: LR 4 mL/kg/% TSA- 1/2 in 1st 8 hrs, 1/2 over the next 16 hours. |
| Congenital Nevus | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Congenital nevi are present at birth and result from a proliferation of benign melanocytes in the dermis, epidermis, or both. Congenital nevi are one of several known risk factors for the eventual development of melanoma. By the time a child reaches adolescence, the incidence of melanoma increases substantially. Many clinicians manage small and medium-sized congenital melanocytic nevi with baseline photography and regular follow-up. |
| Cutaneous Anthrax | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | group of small bumps/blisters that may itch. Swelling around the sore. Painless skin sore (ulcer) w/ a black center (eschar). |
| Cutaneous Candidiasis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Head or nails = oral "-azole"; everything else = topical antifungals. |
| Dengue fever | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Biphasic fever (initial high fever for 3-7 days then remission for hours to 2 days, then second fever phase "break bone" joint pain, headache, sore throat); biphasic rash (erythematous skin mottling, flushed skin, then defervescence with the onset of a maculopapular rash that spares the palms & soles, then petechiae on the extensor surface of limbs). Hemorrhagic fever usually in children in endemic areas. Tourniquet test purpura from the pressure of the tourniquet placed on the arm. Hepatitis. |
| Dermatitis, steroid-induced | Clinical Intervention | Gradual steroid taper, switch to a lower-potency steroid. |
| Dermatophytosis (tinea) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1st line - Topical "-azoles" x 4 weeks (antifungal) |
| Dyshidrosis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | high-strength topical steroids and cold compresses; systemic steroids |
| Drug effect, adverse: antibiotics | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Can get petechial rash when given certain abx (esp. Ampicillin) |
| Erythema Infectiosum (fifth disease) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Parvovirus B19; MC < 10 YO; Transmission via respiratory droplets. Incubation period 4-14 days. |
| Erythema Infectiosum (fifth disease) | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Pt may have a hx of coryza & fever. Older children & adults may report hx of arthropathy/artralgias. Ask about any history of sickle cell disease or G6PD deficiency. PE will show "slapped cheeks" w/ circumoral pallor for 2-4 days then development of a lacy reticular rash (esp on upper extremities) that spares palms/soles. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Erythema multiforme major | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Hx: type IV hypersensitivity reaction. Skin lesions that evolve over 3-5 days & persist about 2 weeks. Any hx of herpes simplex virus, mycoplasma, S. pneumonia. Medication hx (sulfa drugs, beta-lactams, phenytoin, phenobarbital). PE: target lesions with involvement of > 1 mucous membranes (oral, genital, or ocular mucosa) < 10% BSA acraly --> centrally. No epidermal detachment. |
| Erythema Toxicum, Newborns | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | spontaneously resolves in 1-2 weeks. |
| Guttate Psoriasis | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Ask about any hx of psoriasis in the past/other psoriasis signs (ex. nail pitting, oil spots, auspitz sign, koebner's phenomenon, psoriatic arthritis). On PE, examine the extensor surfaces of elbows/knees/scalp/nape of neck, examine nails, look for "sausage digits" of the fingers; small erythematous papules w/ fine scales, discrete lesions & confluent plaques. |
| Herpes, type 3 (zoster) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Acyclovir, valacyclovir, famciclovir (given within 72 hours to prevent postherpetic neuralgia) |
| Impetigo | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | vesicles, pustules with "honey-colored crust". Associated with regional lymphadenopathy. Staph aureus MC; GABHS 2nd MC. Primarily on surfaces of the face. |
| Impetigo | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Clinical dx. Gram stain & culture if atypical presentation. |
| Impetigo | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Mupirocin (Bactroban) topically is the drug of choice tid x 10 days. Others: bacitracin. 2. Extensive disease or systemic sxs (ex. fever) -systemic abx: Cephalexin, dicloxacillin, clindamycin, erythromycin, azithromycin or clarithromycin |
| Intertrigo | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | inflammatory condition of skin folds. Aggravated by heat, moisture, friction. Candida infxns worsen it --> satellite lesions. Itching, burning, pain, stinging. |
| Lichen Planus | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | purple, polygonal, planar, pruritic papules with fine scales & irregular borders on extensor surfaces of extremities, skin, mouth, scalp, genitals, nails, and mucous membranes. May develop Koebner's phenomenon (new lesions at site of trauma). |
| Melasma | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Avoid risk factors such as increased estrogen exposure (OCP's, pregnancy), sun exposure. More likely in women with darker complexions. Use protective sunscreens. |
| Molluscum Contagiosum | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | viral infxn (poxviridae family); highly contagious; MC in children, sexually active adults, pts with HIV |
| Molluscum Contagiosum | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | single or multiple dome-shaped, flesh-colored to pearly-white, waxy papules w/ central umbilication. Curd-like material may be expressed if squeezed. |
| Molluscum Contagiosum | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Cantharidin, topical retinoids. |
| Neoplasm, axilla, benign | Clinical Intervention | Seborrheic Keratosis: No tx needed (benign). Cosmetic mngmnt: cryotherapy, curettage or laser therapy. Lipoma: no tx needed. May perform surgical removal for cosmetic reasons. |
| Neurofibromatosis | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Hx: ask about any first degree relative with NFI, any hx of scoliosis or long bone abnormalities. PE: > 6 café-au-lait spots, inguinal/axillary freckling, lisch nodules of the iris seen on slit lamp exam, optic pathway gliomas (afferent pupillary defect) |
| Neurofibromatosis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | café-au-lait spots and soft, fleshy skin tumors |
| Oral Lichen Planus | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | T-cell mediated inflammatory reaction against exogenous or endogenous trigger. Increase incidence in pts with HCV infection. |
| Pediculosis Pubis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Topical permethrin or pyrethrin; 2nd line is lindane. Others: malathion; PO ivermectin in refractory cases. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Pemphigus Vulgaris | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Oral mucosal membrane erosions & ulcerations first --> then painful flaccid bullae that rupture easily, leaving painful denuded skin erosions that bleed easily. (+) Nikolsky sign |
| Pityriasis Rosea | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Clinical dx- cause unknown but possibly HHV7. Confirm with potassium hydroxide (KOH) to look for hyphae |
| Pityriasis Versicolor | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 2.5% selenium sulfide shampoo or imidazole cream, PO fluconazole |
| Pressure Ulcer | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | pressure redistribution- appropriate use of pressure-reducing devices/surfaces and proper patient positioning; turn often; good hygiene/keep area clean. |
| Psoriasis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Mild-Mod: high-dose topical steroids = 1st line +/- valipotriene, topical tar, tazarotene 2. Mod-Severe: phototherapy (UVB, PUVA). Systemic tx (ex. Methotrexate, cyclosporine, retinoids (acitretin); biologic agents. |
| Psoriasis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | MC on extensor surfaces. Educate patients about signs/sxs of psoriatic arthritis. Usually improves with sunlight/in the warmer months. |
| Scabies | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Often a clinical diagnosis. Skin scraping of the burrows with mineral oil to identify mites or eggs under microscopy. |
| Scabies | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Apply permethrin topical (elimite, nix) head to toe for 8-14 hours then shower; repeat in 1 week. Lindane is cheaper but should not be used after bath/shower (causes seizures; is also teratogenic). Clothing, bedding, etc. should be placed in plastic bag x 72 hours then wash/dry in heat. |
| Skin cancer, Melanoma | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Full thickness wide excisional biopsy + LN biopsy |
| Skin cancer, Melanoma | Clinical Intervention | 1. Complete wide surgical excision with LN biopsy or dissection. 2. +/- adjunct therapy: alpha-interferon, immune therapy, or radiotherapy |
| Squamous Cell Carcinoma | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | 2nd MC skin cancer. Often preceded by actinic keratosis (AK), HPV infection, sun & environmental exposers. MC on lips, hands, neck & head. Malignancy of keratinocytes of skin/mucous membranes: hyperkeratosis & ulceration. |
| Steven Johnson Syndrome (SJS) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Fever and flu-like/URI sxs for 1-3 days prior to painful oral and skin erythematous macules with purpuric centers. Leads to epidermal detachment (positive Nikolsky's sign) |
| Tinea Capitis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | PO Griseofulvin = 1st line. PO Terbinafine, Itraconazole, or Fluconazole = 2nd line. |
| Tinea Cruris | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | "jock itch": diffusely red rash on groin or scrotum; fungal skin infection- Trichophyton infects keratinized tissues in the stratum corneum of the skin, hair, nails by ingesting keratin. RF's include increase skin moisture, immunodeficiency (HIV, DM), PVD. |
| Tinea Cruris | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | KOH smear. Wood's lamp: green fluorescence if due to microsporum. |
| Tinea Versicolor | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. KOH prep from skin scraping: hyphae & spores ("spaghetti & meatballs") 2. Wood's Lamp |
| Wound, Open (Cat Bite) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Augmentin (Amoxicillin-clavulonate) |
| Xerosis, Skin | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | dry skin- may have scales or small cracks in pt who is in dry environment, frequently washes hands, has inadequate hydration, swims in chlorine pools, etc. Usually worse during winter months. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| INFECTIOUS DISEASE | | |
| Anthrax, inhalational | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Anthrax caused by inhalation is usually fatal, and sxs begin abruptly 1-3 days after exposure and follows a biphasic course. Typically begins as fever with nonproductive cough and may feature myalgia, fatigue, or retrosternal chest pain (may be mistaken for influenza or other viral respiratory illness). Transient clinical improvement may occur after the first few days, followed by rapid progression and clinical deterioration including: high fever, severe dyspnea, tachypnea, hypoxemia; hematemesis or hemoptysis, chest pain (may mimic acute coronary syndrome), decreased level of consciousness, meningismus, and coma (with meningeal involvement). |
| Ascariasis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Mebendazole, Albendazole; Pyrantel if pregnant. Tx whole family. |
| Ascariasis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | small worm load-asx; larger load- vague abdominal sxs; high load-may migrate to pancreatic duct, bile duct, appendix, diverticula; pt may complain of cough, wheezing, hemoptysis, abdominal pain, and diarrhea. |
| Ascariasis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | eggs in feces or large worm may be coughed, vomited, leave nose/anus/or mouth. Stool O&P; Eosinophilia |
| Asplenia | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Immunizations needed for Pneumococcal (aka: strep pneumonia)/meningococcal (aka: Neisseria)/H/Flu. Virus: HPV/Influenza/Zoster |
| Bacteremia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Etiologies include: infectious diarrheas, infective endocarditis, osteomyelitis, orbital cellulitis, complicated cystitis or pyelonephritis, tetanus, pneumonia, septic arthritis, brain abscesses, meningitis, sepsis, etc. Bacteremia is the presence of viable bacteria in the circulating blood. More serious bacterial infections may result in death. Often, fever is the only presenting sign in pts with occult bacteremia. |
| Bacteremia | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Fever, elevated WBC's, blood cultures positive (unless HACEK group infxn) |
| Bartonellosis (Cat-Scratch Disease) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Bacteria hide from immune system in RBC's and endothelial cells lining blood vessels; insects transmit dz b/w cats, then cats lick/bite/scratch humans; manifests as gradual regional lymph node enlargement (axilla, groin, neck) which may last 2-3 months or longer and a distal scratch and/or red-brown skin papule (not always seen at time of the dz). |
| Bartonellosis (Cat-Scratch Disease) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Azithromycin is 1st line. Or Doxycycline (preferred if optic neuritis or neurologic disease) |
| Candidal Balanitis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | inflamed foreskin; can lead to phimosis. Pt may be a diabetic or uncircumcised. |
| Candidal Balanitis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Topical imidazole; clotrimazole 1%, or miconazole 2% BID x 1-3 weeks. |
| Catheter Associated Infection | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Depends on presentation (beyond bladder involvement or not). Caution with resistance, dependent on individual severity, community, and host factors/ resistance. Broad spectrum beta lactamase & MRSA coverage; very ill- imipenem + vancomycin. |
| Childbirth, cesarean delivery | Clinical Intervention | Within 60 minutes - pre-op abx prophylaxis (decreases risk of endometritis after elective C-section) - cefazolin usually |
| Cryptococcosis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | HIV patient + patient with meningitis |
| Cryptococcosis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Lumbar puncture: fungal CSF pattern. India ink stain shows encapsulated, budding round yeast) |
| Cryptococcosis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Amphotericin B + Flucytosine x 2 weeks --> followed by PO Fluconazole x 10 weeks, 2. Pneumonia if immunocompetent: Fluconazole or Itraconazole x 3-6 months. |
| Cryptococcosis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Prophylaxis in HIV: Fluconazole if CD4 < 100 |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Cytomegalovirus (CMV) Retinitis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | immunocompromised pt w/ decompensating vision |
| Diphtheria | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | gray and white patches on tonsils and back of throat that bleeds if scraped. Sore throat, fever, swollen lymph nodes; bull neck (enlarged cervical lymphadenopathy); myocarditis |
| Diphtheria | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Clinical. PCR to confirm (isolate until 3 negative pharyngeal cultures) |
| Diphtheria | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Diphtheria antitoxin (horse serum) supplied by the CDC + Erythromycin or PCN x 2 weeks. Clindamycin or Rifampin are alternatives. PCN + Aminoglycoside for endocarditis. |
| Diphtheria | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Prophylaxis for close contacts: Erythromycin x 7-10 days or PCN benzathine G x 1 dose Prevention: DTaP |
| Erythema Infectiosum | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | coryza, fever --> "slapped cheek" rash on face w/ circumoral pallor for 2-4 days --> lacy reticular rash on extremities (esp. upper). Spares palms/soles. Resolves in 2-3 weeks. Arthropathy/arthralgias in older children/adults. |
| Erythema infectiosum (fifth disease) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Parvovirus B19. MC <10 YO. Transmission via respiratory droplets. 4-4 day incubation period. PVB19 may cause aplastic crisis in patients with sickle cell disease or G6Pd deficiency. |
| Fever, Dengue Hemorrhagic | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Biphasic fever: high fever --> breaks x 2 days --> second phase: "break bone" joint pain, headache. Biphasic rash: flushed skin, mottling --> defervescence (when fever comes down) w/ onset of maculopapular rash --> petechiae on extensor surface of limbs Hemorrhagic fever: ecchymosis, GI bleeding, epistaxis Tourniquet test: purpura from tourniquet pressure; hepatitis; ascites; shock Usually in children in endemic areas |
| Fever, Dengue Hemorrhagic | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Prevention: Permethrin on clothes, DEET on body |
| Food Poisoning, Staphylococcus | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | noninvasive (enterotoxin) infectious diarrhea- vomiting, watery, voluminous (involves small intestine), no fecal WBC's or blood. Short incubation period within 6hrs (due to heat stable enterotoxin). Food contamination MC source (ex. dairy products, mayonnaise, meats, eggs). |
| Gonococcal Infection | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | urethral or cervical swab, urine testing - Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (NAAT) or culture |
| Gonococcal Infection | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Ceftriaxone 250 mg IM + Doxy or Azithro |
| Herpes Simplex Virus Type 2 (genital, penis) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | prodromal burning, paresthesia, tingling; painful grouped vesicles on an erythematous base |
| Herpes Simplex Virus Type 2 (genital, penis) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Clinical Dx. PCR most sensitive and specific test for HSV. Tzank smear = intranuclear inclusion bodies and multinucleated giant cells. |
| Herpes Simplex Virus Type 2 (genital, penis) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Acyclovir (IV for encephalitis), Valacyclovir, Famciclovir |
| Herpes Zoster Ophthalmicus | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | shingles involving the 1st division of the trigeminal nerve. Hutchinson's sign: lesions on nose usually heralding ocular involvement. Dendritic lesions on slit lamp exam if keratoconjunctivitis. |
| Herpes Zoster Ophthalmicus | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. PO antiviral (ex. PO acyclovir), 2. May add Trifluridine, acyclovir or vidarabine ophthalmic. |
| Histoplasmosis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Mild-Moderate: Itraconazole 1st line. 2. Severe disease: Amphotericin B (also used if Itraconazole therapy is ineffective) |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| HIV Disease | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Antibody Testing: ELISA (screening test), Rapid testing: blood or saliva 2. Confirmatory test: Western Blot 3. HIV RNA viral load: can be used to monitor infectivity & tx effectiveness in pts diagnosed with HIV |
| HIV/AIDS | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | HIV: retrovirus (changes viral RNA into DNA via reverse transcriptase). HIV-1 (MC) and HIV-2. Transmission: sexual intercourse, IV drug use (shared needles, etc.), mother to child transmission (during birth or breastfeeding), receipt of blood products before 1985, mucosal contact with infected blood or needle stick injuries. AIDS is defined as CD4 count < 200 or the development of an AIDS-defining illness with or without HIV testing. Get recurrent severe & potentially life-threatening opportunistic infections or malignancies. |
| HIV/AIDS | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | HAART Regimens for Treatment Naïve Pts: 1. NNRTI + 2 NRTIs or 2. PI + 2 NRTIs or 3. INSTI + 2 NRTIs |
| HIV/AIDS | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Avoid IV drug use/sharing needles; protection during sexual intercourse. If needle stick, report immediately. Post-exposure prophylaxis: in patients with high risk of infection (ex. occupational exposure) best started within 72 hours of incident (the earlier the better). |
| HIV/AIDS, cytomegalovirus | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | HHV5. Present in most people (70% in the US). Clinical disease only in immunocompromised pts (ex. CMV retinitis if CD4 < 50; colitis if CD4 < 100). |
| Humanpapilloma virus (HPV) infection | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | cutaneous HPV: verruca (warts)- common (vulgaris), plantar (plantaris), flat (plana) mucosal HPV: genital warts (condyloma acuminata), cervical dysplasia/cancer, & anogenital carcinoma |
| Immunization Normal Schedule: MMR | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | 1st dose @ 12-15 months; 2nd dose @ 4-6 yrs. |
| Infection, Shigella dysenteriae | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Lower abdominal pain, high fever, tenesmus, explosive watery diarrhea (mucoïd, bloody). Severe cases may lead to toxic megacolon. Febrile seizures common in young children. |
| Infestation, lumbricoides | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | giant roundworm. MC intestinal helminth worldwide. Contaminated soil. |
| Liver Abscess | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Entamoeba histolytica = bug. Amebiasis. Causes GI colitis, dysentery (bloody diarrhea) - metronidazole |
| Lyme Disease | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Borrelia burgdorferi (gram negative spirochete); Ixodes (deer) tick (white-tailed deer); Highest likelihood of transmission if tick attached for at least 72 hours and engorged. |
| Lyme Disease | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Hx of tick bite. Early localized: erythema migrans; Early disseminated: arthritis, HA, CN7/Facial nerve palsy, AV heart block |
| Lyme Disease | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Clinical. 2. Serologic Testing: ELISA followed by Western Blot (false positive ELISA seen with syphilis) |
| Lyme Disease | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Early Disease: 1. Doxycycline BID x 10-21 days; Azithromycin or Erythromycin if allergic. 2. Amoxicillin = TOC in kids < 8YO or prego. Late/Severe Disease: IV Ceftriaxone |
| Lyme Disease | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Prophylaxis: Doxycycline 200 mg x 1 dose within 72 hours of tick removal if tick is present for > 36 hrs & > 20% ticks infected in that area. If allergic --> No prophylaxis given. |
| Malaria | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | RBC dz caused by Plasmodium falciparum (most dangerous), vivax, ovale, malaria. Transmitted by the female Anopheles mosquito. Sickle cell trait & thalassemia trait are protective against malaria. |
| Malaria | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Cyclical fever, leukopenia, hemolytic anemia, thrombocytopenia, HA, myalgias, GI sx, splenomegaly. Cerebral malaria (coma) with P. falciparum. |
| Malaria | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Gemsa stain peripheral smear (thin & thick); parasites in RBC's |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| MRSA | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | TMP-SMX (Bactrim), Clindamycin, Tetracycline (Doxycycline or Minocycline) |
| Mumps | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | viral cause (paramyxovirus); respiratory spread; Mumps is the MCC of acute pancreatitis in children |
| Mumps | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Sxs begin w/ a few days of fever, HA, myalgia, fatigue, & anorexia; followed by development of salivary gland swelling within 48 hrs; Parotitis: obscure angle of the mandible |
| Mumps | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Serologies. Increased amylase. Often clinical dx. |
| Mumps | Clinical Intervention | Supportive, anti-inflammatories; sxs usually last 7-10 days. |
| Mumps | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | pts usually infectious 48 hrs prior to and 9 days after onset of parotid swelling; complications include orchitis (males) & neurologic manifestations (including meningitis, encephalitis, and deafness); Prevention w/ MMR vaccine. |
| Mycobacterium Avium Complex (MAC) | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | No person to person contact transmission. Seen in HIV when CD4 < 50. HIV prophylaxis: if CD4 < 50 --> Clarithromycin, Azithromycin. Rifabutin 2nd line. |
| Neurosyphilis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Tertiary syphilis. CNS infxn by Treponema pallidum; can occur any time after initial infxn. |
| Neurosyphilis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | HA, meningitis, dementia, vision/hearing loss, incontinence; Tabes dorsalis: ataxia, areflexia, burning pain, weakness, no proprioception. Argyll-Robertson pupil |
| Post Herpetic Neuralgia | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | pain > 3 months, hyperesthesia or decreased sensation after shingles |
| Post Herpetic Neuralgia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Gabapentin or TCA's; 2. Topical lidocaine gel, capsaicin. |
| Primary Syphilis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Darkfield microscopy. 2. Screening Tests: RPR, VDRL. 3. Confirmatory test: FTA-BS (Fluorescent Treponemal Antibody Absorption) |
| Rabies | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Infection prevented w/ proper wound care & post-exposure prophylaxis (immune globulin & vaccine). Animal causes: bats, opossum, raccoons, skunks, foxes, wolves (but not rodents). Prophylaxis considered if even potential contact b/w a human & a bat; includes pts who have been in a room w/ a bat if they are unable to rule out any physical contact. Vaccine- give for pre & post-exposure: 5 IM doses of human diploid cell vaccine (HDCV): days 0,3,7, & 14 (+/- 28th day) PLUS rabies immune globulin (1/2 in wound & 1/2 IM) within 6 days of exposure. |
| Ramsay Hunt | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Triad = ipsilateral facial paralysis (Bells Palsy CN7), ear pain, vesicles of auditory canal/auricle. Ipsilateral altered taste perception & tongue lesions. Decreased hearing, tinnitus, hyperacusis. Lacrimation occurs in some pts. Vertigo, ataxia. |
| Ramsay Hunt | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | oral Acyclovir + corticosteroids |
| Rheumatic Fever | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Migratory polyarthritis, carditis, Sydenham's chorea, erythema marginatum, subcutaneous nodules; fever, joint pain (arthralgia), increased ESR, CRP & leukocytosis; EKG may show prolonged PR interval. Recent hx of strep infxn. |
| Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Rickettsia Rickettsii. Vector: Dermacentor andersoni/variabilis (wood/dog tick). MC in south central and SE United States (esp spring/summer). |
| Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Fever and HA, which is followed a few days later w/ the development of a rash. Rash is generally made up of small spots of bleeding and starts on the wrist/ankles --> palms/soles then spreads centrally over 2-3 days. |
| Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Clinical dx (don't wait for serologies) |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Doxycycline (even in children), 2. Chloramphenicol is TOC if pregnant. |
| Roseola | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | occurs MC < 5 YO. Prodrome of high fever for 3-5 days --> fever resolves before onset of rose pink maculopapular, blanchable rash on the trunk/back --> face. Child appears "well" and alert during febrile phase |
| Rubella | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Clinical. 2. Rubella-specific IgM antibodies using an enzyme immunoassay (EIA) |
| Rubella | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Generally no complications in children with Rubella. Teratogenic esp in 1st trimester: congenital syndrome (sensorineural deafness, cataracts, TTP-"blueberry muffin rash", mental retardation, heart defects); part of the TORCH syndrome. |
| Ruptured Spleen | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | complication of mononucleosis (severe fatigue, fever, sore throat, posterior LAD, splenomegaly); petechial rash if given "-cillins" (ex. Amoxicillin). Avoid trauma/contact sports for at least one month after mono dx to prevent spleen rupture. |
| Scarlet Fever | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Penicillin G or VK 1st line. 2. Macrolides if PCN allergic. |
| Schistosomiasis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Typically in the tropics (wading/swimming in fresh or salt water). Pts may develop a pruritic rash due to cercarial dermatitis (also called swimmer's itch). Fever, lethargy, malaise, and myalgia. Less common sx's include cough, HA, anorexia, and rash. RUQ pain and bloody diarrhea may also occur. Lymphadenopathy. May present with focal neurological deficits in acute schistosomiasis. |
| Secondary Syphilis | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Hx of when initial sx's began (2ry syphilis sx's usually occur a few weeks - 6 months after initial sx's). Ask about any hx of systemic sx's (fever, lymphadenopathy +/- tender, meningitis, headache, hepatitis). Get good sexual hx. Ask about any previous chancre (painless ulcer that healed spontaneously). PE: observe for maculopapular rash (diffuse, bilateral, involvement of palms/soles common); Condyloma Lata (wart-like, moist lesions involving the mucous membranes & other moist areas; highly contagious). |
| Sepsis, Bacterial | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Fever with hypotension/AMS and increased respiratory rate. |
| Syphilis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Primary, Secondary, or early-latent: Penicillin G benzathine IM 2.4 million units x 1 dose Tertiary or late-latent: Penicillin G benzathine IM 2.4 million units every week x 3 doses PCN allergic: Doxycycline or Tetracycline, Macrolide, or Ceftriaxone |
| Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome (SIRS) | Clinical Intervention | 1. pan culture prior to initiating abx; 2. Zosyn + Ceftriaxone or Imipenem; 3. IV isotonic fluids (NS,LR); 4. Vasopressor if no response to 2-3L of IV fluids +/- IV hydrocortisone (goal MAP > 60 mm Hg) |
| Tetanus | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Clostridium tetani (gram positive rod) - see especially in puncture & crush wounds |
| Toxic Shock Syndrome | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | May be seen with tampon use, diaphragm or sponge esp. > 24 hours; usually from staph aureus (produces an exotoxin) or strep pyogenes. |
| Toxic Shock Syndrome | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | includes sudden onset high fever (> 102.2F), tachycardia, hypotension, N/V/D, pharyngitis, rash (diffuse erythematous macular rash like sunburn; includes palms/soles) |
| Toxoplasmosis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Primary infxn: usually asx; mono-like illness, cervical LAD; Encephalitis & chorioretinitis in immunocompromised pts (CD4 < 100), fever, cervical LN, malaise, myalgias, HA; Congenital: part of ToRCH syndrome; triad of chorioretinitis, intracranial calcifications, hydrocephalus |
| Toxoplasmosis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | PCR. Head CT/san/MRI: +/- shows ring-enhancing lesions |
| Toxoplasmosis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, & Preventative Measures | Prophylaxis if CD4 < 100: TMP-SMX (Bactrim) |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| Trichomoniasis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Metronidazole (Flagyl) 2 g PO x 1 dose, safe in pregnancy; Tinidazole. |
| Typhoid Fever | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Caused by Salmonella (S. typhi); Cephalic phase: HA, constipation, pharyngitis, cough --> crampy abdominal pain, diarrhea, "pea soup stools" (brown-green color). Intractable fever, relative bradycardia, hepatosplenomegaly, blanching "rose spots" appear in 2nd week. Pts may have (+) blood cultures for salmonella & leukopenia. |
| Upper Respiratory Tract Infection (URI) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Symptomatic Tx: analgesics, antihistamine/decongestant combos, antitussive, bronchodilators, abx (usually viral- abx not recommended) |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| HERMATOLOGY | | |
| Alpha Thalassemia | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. CBC: hypochromic, microcytic anemia (decreased MCV ex. 60-75). Normal or increased RBC count; Normal or increased serum iron & iron stores. Hgb may be as low as 3-6. Peripheral smear: target cells, teardrop cells, basophilic stippling; Heinz bodies in Hemoglobin H disease. 2. Hb electrophoresis: normal HbA, normal HbA2, normal HbF (alpha is a dx of exclusion b/c peripheral smear is normal). |
| Alpha Thalassemia | Clinical Intervention | Mild Thalassemia (alpha-trait): No tx needed. Moderate disease: folate if reticulocyte count is high; avoid oxidative stress (ex. sulfa drugs); avoid iron supplementation. Severe disease: 1. blood transfusion: weekly to correct anemia. Vit C, folate supplementation. 2. Iron chelating Agents. 3. Splenectomy in some cases. 4. Allogenic bone marrow transplant = definitive management of major |
| Anemia of Chronic Disease | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | decreased serum iron, increased ferritin, decreased TIBC |
| Anemia, unspecified | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Intrinsic (inherited disorders): sickle cell, thalassemia, G6PD, hereditary spherocytosis. Extrinsic (acquired disorders): autoimmune hemolytic anemia, DIC, TTP, HUS, Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria, Hypersplenism Both intrinsic & extrinsic share these things in common: Reticulocytosis: bone marrow response to destruction --> release more immature RBC's (reticulocytes); Increased LDH (enzyme in RBC): RBC destruction --> increased serum LDH; Increased indirect bilirubin --> jaundice; increased direct (conjugated) bilirubin --> dark urine; Decreased haptoglobin: RBC destruction --> increased free Hgb --> haptoglobin binds free Hgb to reduce oxidative toxicity; (+) Schistocytes on peripheral smear (schistocytes are fragmented RBC's resulting from RBC destruction in spleen, liver, small blood vessels - small vessel thrombosis of DIC, TTP, HUS) |
| Aplastic Anemia | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | CBC, peripheral blood smears, Hgb electrophoresis, blood-group testing, biochemical profile, serology for hepatitis and other viral entities, autoimmune-disease evaluation for evidence of collagen-vascular disease, Fluorescence-activated cell sorter profiling, Fluorescent-labeled inactive toxin aerolysin testing, Kidney and liver function studies; transaminase, bilirubin, and lactate dehydrogenase levels. Bone marrow biopsy is performed in addition to aspiration to assess cellularity qualitatively and quantitatively. |
| Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemia | Clinical Intervention | 1. Warm (IgG Ab): corticosteroids 1st line --> splenectomy or rituximab --> immunosuppressants, IVIG 2. Cold (IgM Ab): avoid cold exposure. Rituximab if tx is needed. Plasmapheresis if refractory. Coomb's (+): distinguishes it from hereditary spherocytosis |
| Beta Thalassemia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | decreased production of beta-chains leads to excess alpha chains. MC in Mediterranean (ex. Greeks/Italians), Africans. |
| Beta Thalassemia | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | 1. Beta-Thalassemia Trait (Minor): usually asymptomatic. Only 1 defective gene. 2. Beta-Thalassemia Intermedia: associated with anemia, hepatosplenomegaly, & bony disease. 3. Beta-Thalassemia Major (Cooley's anemia): usually asx at birth but become symptomatic at 6 months old. Frontal bossing, maxillary overgrowth, hepatosplenomegaly, severe hemolytic anemia, osteopenia, iron overload & pigmented gallstones. |
| Beta Thalassemia | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. CBC: hypochromic, microcytic anemia (decreased MCV), normal or increased RBC count & serum iron. Hgb usually ~6g/dL. Peripheral smear: target cells, teardrop cells, basophilic stippling, nucleated RBC's. 2. Hgb electrophoresis: B-Thal trait (Minor)--> low HbA, high HbA2, high HbF; B-Thal Major (Cooley's) --> Increased HgbF (up to 90%), increased HgbA2, Little to no HgbA 3. Skull x-rays: bossing w/ "hair on end" appearance due to extramedullary hematopoiesis. |
| Beta Thalassemia | Clinical Intervention | 1. Minor: No medical care usually. Offer genetic counseling. 2. Major/Severe Anemia: Periodic blood transfusions. Vit C/Folate supplementation. Avoid excess iron intake. Iron chelating agents. Splenectomy if refractory. Allogenic Bone Marrow Transplant = definitive. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia (CML) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Pt usually > 50 YO; most asymptomatic until they develop blastic crisis (acute leukemia), splenomegaly; (+) Philadelphia chromosome; strikingly increased WBC count |
| Coagulation Defect, Protein C Deficiency | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | protein C is a vitamin K-dependent anticoagulation protein (produced by the liver) that stimulates fibrinolysis & clot lysis (inactivated Factor 5 & 8). Increased risk of recurrent DVT and PE's. Autosomal dominant inherited hypercoagulable disorder. |
| Coagulation Defect, Protein C Deficiency | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Heparin --> oral anticoagulation for life. |
| Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation (DIC) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Pt who is bleeding out & clotting. 1. Widespread hemorrhage: venipuncture sites, mouth, nose, extensive bruising. 2. Thrombosis |
| Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation (DIC) | Clinical Intervention | 1. Tx underlying cause = most important 1st step. 2. Severe bleeding --> FFP (replaces coagulation factors) + Cryoprecipitate (replaces fibrinogen) +/- platelet transfusion (if platelet count < 20,000) 3. Severe thrombosis --> Heparin |
| Drug effect, mechanism: Anticoagulants | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Heparin: intrinsic pathway; monitored with PTT; factors 8,9 (also 11,12). Warfarin: extrinsic pathway; monitored with PT/INR; factors 2,7,9,10. |
| Factor V Leiden Mutation | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | MC inherited cause of hypercoagulability. RF's: European Descent & Fm hx of DVT's or unprovoked DVT's. |
| Factor V Leiden Mutation | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Activated protein C resistance assay. 2. If positive, confirm with DNA testing. Normal PT/PTT. |
| Factor V Leiden Mutation | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. High risk --> indefinite anticoagulation. May need thromboprophylaxis during pregnancy to prevent miscarriages. 2. Moderate Risk (ex. 1 thrombotic event with a prothrombotic stimulus or asx) --> prophylaxis during high-risk procedures. |
| G6PD Deficiency | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | x-linked recessive trait that affects primarily African American males. Acute cases of hemolysis can be caused by infection (MC)-ex. pneumonia, specific oxidant meds (ex. sulfa drugs), foods (ex. fava beans) or chemicals |
| G6PD Deficiency | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | African American male. Clinical signs include jaundice, pallor, dark urine. Often with a hx of infection, use of a sulfa drug, or after eating fava beans. |
| G6PD Deficiency | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Peripheral smear: schistocytes ("bite" cells); Heinz bodies |
| G6PD Deficiency | Clinical Intervention | 1. Self-limiting usually. Avoid offending drugs/food; hydrate. 2. Severe anemia: iron/folic acid supplements +/- blood transfusions if severe. |
| Goodpasture Syndrome | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | IgG antibodies against type IV collagen of the alveoli & glomerular basement membrane of the kidney. |
| Goodpasture Syndrome | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | 1. Glomerulonephritis (rapidly progressing) + 2. Pulmonary hemorrhage (hemoptysis) |
| Goodpasture Syndrome | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Biopsy: linear IgG deposits in the glomeruli or alveoli on immunofluorescence [(+) anti-GBM Ab] |
| Goodpasture Syndrome | Clinical Intervention | 1. Glucocorticoids (corticosteroids) + Cyclophosphamide 2. Plasmapheresis |
| Hemochromatosis | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Arthritis from calcium pyrophosphate deposition in joints leading to joint pains. The MC affected joints are those of the hands, particularly knuckles of the 2nd & 3rd fingers. Bronzing of the skin. This deep tan color, in concert with insulin insufficiency due to pancreatic damage, is the source of the nickname for this condition: "bronze diabetes". Cirrhosis, fatigue, weakness, cardiomyopathy, arrhythmias, hypogonadism, impotence, DM. |
| Hemochromatosis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | disorder of increased iron storage and increased intestinal iron absorption leading to increased serum iron & increased iron deposition in liver, heart, pancreas, adrenals, testes, kidneys, etc. Autosomal recessive. Sxs usually begin after 40 YO. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
|---|--|---|
| Hemochromatosis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Increased serum iron, increased serum transferrin saturation; Normal/ decreased TIBC; increased Ferritin. 2. +/- Increased LFT's, genetic testing for HFE gene. Increased risk of hepatocellular carcinoma. 3. Liver Biopsy = Gold Standard: increased liver parenchymal hemosiderin |
| Hemochromatosis | Clinical Intervention | Phlebotomy weekly until depletion of iron (decreased ferritin, decreased transferrin saturation or mild anemia) --> Maintenance phlebotomy ~3-4 times a year for life. Chelating agents only if unable to do phlebotomy (ex. anemia); usually not needed. Tx any complications, test blood relatives, offer genetic counseling. |
| Hemochromatosis | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | No iron pills, ETOH, or Vitamin C. Educate patient about the need for periodic phlebotomy throughout the year for life. Test blood relatives. Genetic counseling. |
| Hemolytic Anemia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Occurs when RBC cannot maintain its intact structure during passages through circulation --> increased EPO secretion --> bone marrow stimulated to make RBC precursors --> reticulocyte count increases --> H & H increases. |
| Hemolytic Anemia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Two means of reduction of antibody production: glucocorticoids & cytotoxic drugs. Most clinicians favor initial tx with glucocorticoids. |
| Hemolytic Anemia Secondary to Renal Failure | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Intravascular hemolysis can produce acute tubular necrosis due to hemoglobinuria. Sx: red/brown urine and plasma, low haptoglobin, high LDH, deteriorated renal function, fraction excretion of sodium less than 1%. Tx = hemodialysis. |
| Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Suspect in kid with GI sxs (ex. E.coli, Shigella, Salmonella), anemia, kidney damage (increased BUN/Cr), thrombocytopenia (petechiae, bruising); No neuro sxs or fever like in TTP. |
| Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Same labs and peripheral smear as TTP |
| Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS) | Clinical Intervention | 1. Observation in most children (usually self-limited). IV fluids to maintain renal perfusion. 2. Plasmapheresis (+/- FFP) if severe, neuro complications, non-renal complications Antibiotics may worsen due to increased verotoxin by cell lysis) |
| Hemophilia A | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Deficiency of Factor VIII (8), which affects the intrinsic pathway. Results in failure to form hematomas. Occurs almost exclusively in males. |
| Hemophilia A | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Usually a male with hemarthrosis (bleeding into wt. bearing joints ex. ankles, knees, elbow); excessive hemorrhage in response to trauma & surgery/incisional bleeding. |
| Hemophilia A | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Low factor VIII (8), prolonged PTT; mixing study with normal plasma will correct/ normalize PTT |
| Hemophilia A | Clinical Intervention | 1. Factor VIII infusion to levels 25-100% as needed. 2. Desmopressin (DDAVP) prior to procedures to prevent bleeding. |
| Hemophilia B | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | aka Christmas disease. Deficiency of Factor IX (9). Almost exclusively in males. |
| Hemophilia B | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Clinically indistinguishable form Hemophilia A (same sxs) - ex. deep tissue bleeding |
| Hemophilia B | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | decreased serum factor IX (9), prolonged PTT |
| Hemophilia B | Clinical Intervention | Factor IX (9) infusion. Desmopressin not useful. |
| Henoch-Schonlein Purpura (HSP) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | 90% in children (3-15 YO); MC after URI; systemic vasculitis. The exact cause for this phenomenon is unknown. |
| Henoch-Schonlein Purpura (HSP) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Prodrome of HA, anorexia, fever --> develop rash (usually on legs, symmetrical - palpable purpura), abdominal pain/vomiting, joint pain (esp. knees/ankles), subcutaneous edema; hematuria, proteinuria |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Henoch-Schonlein Purpura (HSP) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Diagnosis is mainly clinical. Kidney biopsy will show mesangial IgA deposits. Normal coags (PT/PTT); Normal platelets. |
| Henoch-Schonlein Purpura (HSP) | Clinical Intervention | Supportive (self-limited; lasts 1-6 weeks). Bed rest, hydration, NSAIDs for joint pain. |
| Hereditary Spherocytosis | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Autosomal dominant. RBC membrane/cytoskeleton defect (spectrin) leads to increased cell fragility and sphere-shaped RBC's --> increased RBC hemolysis in spleen by splenic macrophages. Aplastic crisis if infected with Parvovirus B19. |
| Hereditary Spherocytosis | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | hemolysis leading to anemia, jaundice, hepatosplenomegaly, pigmented black gallstones (calcium bilirubinate) |
| Hereditary Spherocytosis | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Blood Smear: Hyperchromic microcytosis- 80% spherocytes (RBC's lacking central pallor) (+) Osmotic Fragility Test; Coombs' Test (-). Increased MCHC in hereditary spherocytosis. |
| Hereditary Spherocytosis | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Folic Acid (not curative but helpful b/c folate helps maintain RBC production & DNA synthesis). 2. Splenectomy = tx of choice in severe disease (stops splenic RBC destruction) |
| Hodgkin's Disease | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Pt around 20 YO or 50 YO (bimodal distribution) with painless lymphadenopathy in upper body, hepatosplenomegaly; Pel-Ebstein fever (cyclical fever that increases and decreases over a period of 1-2 weeks), night sweats, wt. loss, anorexia. Alcohol may induce lymph node pain. Reed-Sternberg cells ("owl-eye" appearance). Associated with Epstein-Barr virus (mono) |
| Hypercoagulable state due to malignancy | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Pt with signs/sxs of malignancy (ex. weight loss, night sweats, etc.) with thromboembolism (PE/DVT) yet may have thrombosis in unusual sites (ex. mesenteric vein, renal vein, hepatic, or cerebral thrombosis). |
| Hyperplasia, benign prostatic | Clinical Intervention | 1. Observation: mild sxs (monitored annually). Avoid antihistamines & anticholinergics. 2. 5-alpha reductase inhibitors: Finasteride & Dutasteride - (+) effect on clinical course (size reduction/decreased need for surgery) but does not provide immediate relief. 3. alpha1 blockers: Tamsulosin (Flomax), Alfuzosin, Doxazosin, Terazosin - provides rapid sx relief but no effect on clinical course 4. Surgical: TURP |
| Idiopathic (Autoimmune) Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | acquired, abnormal isolated thrombocytopenia (low platelet count) of idiopathic cause. Patho: autoimmune antibody reaction vs. platelets with splenic platelet destruction often following an acute viral infection |
| Idiopathic (Autoimmune) Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Often asx; Increased mucocutaneous bleeding: purpura, bruises, petechiae, epistaxis, bleeding teeth/gums; No splenomegaly. Acute ITP: MC in children after viral infxn (self-limited usually). Chronic ITP: MC in adults (often recurrent). |
| Idiopathic (Autoimmune) Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP) | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Isolated thrombocytopenia with normal coag tests. Smear may show megakaryocytes or large-sized platelets. |
| Idiopathic (Autoimmune) Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP) | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | 1. Children: Observation* --> +/- IVIG 2. Adults: corticosteroids --> IVIG --> Splenectomy if refractory. Platelet transfusion if <20,000 to prevent spontaneous intracranial hemorrhage. |
| Iron deficiency anemia | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | decreased serum iron, decreased ferritin, increased TIBC; decreased RDW, decreased RBC count/Hct/Hgb; decreased MCV; decreased transferrin saturation <15%, decreased reticulocytes |
| Iron deficiency anemia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | MC due to bleeding. Microcytic anemia (MCV < 80). |
| Iron deficiency anemia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Iron replacement: ex. ferrous sulfate 325 mg PO daily. |
| Iron deficiency anemia | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | Supplementation leads to increased reticulocyte count within 7 days. Start low dose and gradually increase dose because of GI SE's. Better absorbed on an empty stomach. Vit. C increased iron absorption. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Jaundice, Newborn | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Physiologic: usually due to increased indirect (unconjugated) bilirubin- the immature liver of a newborn is unable to efficiently conjugate Bili due to decreased UGT enzyme activity. Indirect bilirubin rises in days 3-5 and falls in about half of neonate during the first week of life. Pathologic: may be suggestive if jaundice occurs in the first 24 hours of life (usually indicates hemolysis or hereditary spherocytosis), persistent jaundice 10-14 days, increased direct (conjugated) bilirubin > 2 mg/dL, total Bili > 12 mg/dL. Increased indirect Bili may be physiologic or pathologic. Increased direct Bili is always pathologic. Physiologic (after 24 hrs. & peaks 3-5 days); Prematurity and breastfeeding jaundice (2nd-3rd day of life). |
| Leukemia, Chronic Lymphocytic (CLL) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | MC leukemia in adults overall. MC >50 YO, males, Caucasians. Most are asymptomatic (often incidental finding of leukocytosis on routine blood testing). Fatigue (MC), dyspnea on exertion, increased infections. Painful lymphadenopathy, hepatosplenomegaly. |
| Leukopenia | Pharmaceutical Therapeutics | Myeloid growth factors: These are proteins that stimulate the bone marrow to produce WBCs and are AKA "growth factors" or "colony-stimulating factors." Examples include filgrastim (Neupogen), tbo-filgrastim (Granix), and pegfilgrastim (Neulasta) |
| Macrocytic Anemia | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | MCV > 100 = macrocytic. MCV >115 almost exclusively seen with B12 or folate deficiency (esp. if hypersegmented neutrophils are present). B12 deficiency has (+) neuro sx's, increased serum homocysteine, and increased methylmalonic acid. Folate deficiency is not associated w/ neurologic sx's and has increased serum homocysteine only. |
| Megaloblastic Anemia | Clinical Intervention | Megaloblastic anemia due to: B12 deficiency, folate deficiency, ETOH, Liver dz, and hypothyroidism. Check for signs/sxs of these. |
| Multiple Myeloma | History Taking and Performing Physical Exam | Bone pain (esp. spine & ribs), Recurrent infxns (S. pneumo from leukopenia), Elevated calcium (hypercalcemia), Anemia (fatigue, pallor, weakness, wt. loss, hepatosplenomegaly), Kidney failure |
| Multiple Myeloma | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. Monoclonal (M) protein spike on serum electrophoresis (SPEP) 2. Monoclonal proteins in urine (Bence Jones proteinuria) on urine protein electrophoresis (UPEP) 3. CBC: Rouleaux formation --> increased ESR 4. Skull Radiographs: "punched-out" lytic lesions. Bone scans not helpful. 5. Bone Marrow Biopsy: plasmacytosis >10% |
| Multiple Myeloma | Clinical Intervention | Autologous stem cell transplant = definitive tx. +/- preceded by chemotherapy (ex. Thalidomide) or alkylating agents (ex. Melphalan). Bisphosphonates for bony destruction (ex. alendronate). |
| Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | unexplained hemolytic anemia and associated sx's including fatigue, jaundice, and red/pink/black urine. Decreased bone marrow function in some individuals may further exacerbate anemia and cause other cytopenia. |
| Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria | Clinical Intervention | Eculizumab (anti-complement CD5 Ab); Prednisone decreases hemolysis; marrow transplant |
| Pernicious Anemia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | It's autoimmune destruction/loss of gastric parietal cells that secrete intrinsic factor leading to B12 deficiency. |
| Pernicious Anemia | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Increased MCV (>115). Decreased B12 levels. (+) intrinsic factor Ab, parietal cell Ab, increased gastrin levels. (+) Schilling test. |
| Pernicious Anemia | Clinical Intervention | B12 replacement: start with IM B12. Oral B12 for mild disease. |
| Pernicious Anemia | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | Watch for signs of hypokalemia with tx. |
| Polycythemia Vera | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Screening test: Hgb > 16 g/dL; Hct > 48%. Diagnostic test is subnormal EPO and either JAK2 V617F peripheral blood mutation or exon 12 mutation. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Polycythemia Vera (Primary Erythrocytosis) | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | acquired myeloproliferative disorder with overproduction of all 3 myeloid cell lines (primarily RBC's, but also associated w/ increased WBC's and increased platelets). Lymphocyte line is normal. Caused by JAK2 mutation. Peaks 50-60 YO. MC in men. |
| Polycythemia Vera (Primary Erythrocytosis) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | primary erythrocytosis = increased Hct in the absence of hypoxia; Sxs due to increased RBC mass: hyperviscosity or thrombus. HA, dizziness, tinnitus, blurred vision, pruritus esp after a hot bath, episodic burning/throbbing of hands/feet with edema. Splenomegaly, facial plethora. |
| Polycythemia Vera (Primary Erythrocytosis) | Clinical Intervention | 1. Therapeutic phlebotomy = Mgmt. of choice. Done until hematocrit < 45%. Low-dose aspirin prevents thrombosis. 2. Myelosuppression: hydroxyurea, interferon-alpha 3. Allopurinol if pt is hyperuricemic. Ruxolitinib is a JAK inhibitor. |
| Secondary Polycythemia | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | increased hematocrit as a response to another process. Sxs related to underlying precipitating cause (ex. COPD); cyanosis, clubbing, HTN, hepatosplenomegaly, +/- heart murmur |
| Secondary Polycythemia | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Major cause of increased RBC mass. MC in obese, hx of cigarette smoking. Etiologies: 1. Reactive (physiologic): due to hypoxia (ex. COPD); 2. Pathologic ex. renal dz (renal cell carcinoma); 3. Relative polycythemia: normal RBC mass in the setting of decrease plasma volume, dehydration |
| Secondary Polycythemia | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | Increased RBC/hematocrit with normal WBC & platelets (normal WBC/platelets distinguishes 2ry from 1ry polycythemia vera) |
| Secondary Polycythemia | Clinical Intervention | Tx underlying disorder; Quit smoking |
| Sickle Cell Disease | Applying Basic Scientific Concepts | Sickle Cell Disease: autosomal recessive HgbSS; Sickle Cell trait: heterozygous HgbS (AS). Aplastic crisis if infected w/ Parvovirus B19 |
| Sickle Cell Disease | Using Diagnostic and Laboratory Studies | 1. CBC w/ peripheral smear: decreased Hgb (5-9 g/dL), decreased Hematocrit (17-29%), Increased reticulocytes. Sickled erythrocytes +/- Howell-Jolly Bodies (indicates functional asplenia) 2. Hemoglobin Electrophoresis: Sickle Cell Disease- HgbS, no HgbA, increased HgbF; Sickle Cell Trait- HgbS, decreased HgbA |
| Sickle Cell Disease | Clinical Intervention | Pain management- IV hydration, O2, hydroxyurea, folic acid, +/- RBC transfusions |
| Sickle Cell Disease | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventative Measures | Children should be immunized against S. pneumococcus, Hib, & N. meningococcus. They should also receive prophylactic penicillin from 4 months - 6 years old. |
| Thalassemia | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Microcytic anemia with normal/elevated serum iron or no response to iron treatment. Associated with severe anemia and abnormal peripheral smear for a given Hct level. |
| Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (TTP) | Formulating the Most Likely Diagnosis | Pentad: thrombocytopenia, microangiopathic hemolytic anemia, kidney failure, neurologic sxs, fever; increased incidence with HIV. |
| Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (TTP) | Clinical Intervention | 1. Plasmapheresis = Tx of choice. 2. Immunosuppression: corticosteroids, cyclophosphamide, etc. No platelet transfusions (may cause thrombi formation). Splenectomy if refractory to plasmapheresis & corticosteroids. |
| Transfusion | Clinical Intervention | If any complications arise, stop the transfusion? |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE | | |
| EMTALA/EMTALA | Professional Practice | If you work at a facility that accepts Medicare/Medicaid, you are required to perform a medical screening exam (MSE) on every person that comes in. No refusal; civil penalties if you are in violation. ER must treat everyone. Anti-dumping law |
| Hepatitis A vaccination | Professional Practice | Offer to high risk people. Men who have sex with men. IV drug abuse. International travelers. This is a fecal-oral route so wash hands. |
| Legal/ethical: autonomy | Professional Practice | PAs autonomy is per state, and often has to do with the autonomy of the supervising physician. |
| Legal/ethical: beneficence | Professional Practice | Beneficence -- having the patient's best interest in mind |
| Legal/ethical: chain of custody | Professional Practice | Law enforcement When you take forensic data, how does it stay supervised and not tampered with Ex: rape, child abuse, assault |
| Legal/ethical: choice of treatment | Professional Practice | Full disclosure of options from a fiduciary perspective. |
| Legal/ethical: consent | Professional Practice | Informed consent -- the patient must be of sound mind and adult years to give this Implied -- in a true emergency, you can act without consent (as long as consent was not withdrawn by the patient beforehand) because it's implied the patient would want you to save his life |
| Legal/ethical: HIPAA | Professional Practice | Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996" is United States legislation that provides data privacy and security provisions for safeguarding medical information. |
| Legal/ethical: hospice criteria | Professional Practice | patient is terminally ill, with a life expectancy of six months or less if the disease runs its expected course. No treatment to prolong life is expected. |
| Legal/ethical: living will (patient self determination) | Professional Practice | a written statement detailing a person's desires regarding their medical treatment in circumstances in which they are no longer able to express informed consent, especially an advance directive. |
| Legal/ethical: medical futility | Professional Practice | We should not recommend or provide treatments that could not help a patient |
| Legal/ethical: parental refusal of blood products | Professional Practice | If parents say no to blood transfusion --> don't give blood products Honor religious preferences |
| Legal/ethical: patient rights | Professional Practice | A patient has the right to impartial access to medical treatment or accommodations, regardless of race, national origin, religion, handicap, or source of payment. A patient has the right to treatment for any emergency medical condition that will deteriorate from failure to provide treatment. |
| Legal/ethical: prescribing medications | Professional Practice | Need documentation of clinical utility |
| Legal/ethical: prescribing rights | Professional Practice | In 44 states and D.C., PAs are authorized to prescribe medications in schedules II-V. Five states allow schedules III-V. Kentucky is the only state where PAs cannot prescribe controlled medications. Requires DEA registration. |
| Legal/ethical: research studies | Professional Practice | Patient must have knowledge of the study and consent to participation; institutional review board (IRB) monitors the study |
| legal/ethical: EMTALA | Clinical Intervention | The Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA) is a federal law that requires anyone coming to an emergency department to be stabilized and treated, regardless of their insurance status or ability to pay, but since its enactment in 1986 has remained an unfunded mandate. |
| Legal/medical ethics: living will | Clinical Intervention | Surrogacy: I fill out a form designating a surrogate so if I can't make decisions, my surrogate can for me. |

| PROBLEM | TASK CATEGORY | ANSWER |
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| Medical informatics | Professional Practice | Can't access a chart unless for medical care reasons. |
| Medical informatics: medical record documentation | Professional Practice | Accurate for billing and coding purposes. |
| Patient care and communication: affordable and effective care; stewardship of patient resources | Professional Practice | We must provide care with the resources that patient has and can afford. |
| Physician/PA relationship: ethics | Professional Practice | PA can only do what supervising physician can do. Varies by state |
| Physician/PA relationship: scope of practice | Professional Practice | We can practice only to the scope of our supervising doctor. |
| Professional development: identifying appropriate reference sources | Professional Practice | Evidence based medicine is our fiduciary responsibility. |
| Terminal cancer | Professional Practice | "Terminal" by the patient's definition -- help patient fight it out if they want to Comfort/palliative care: no labs, no vitals |
| Ulcer, pressure | Health Maintenance, Patient Education, and Preventive Measures | Pressure redistribution -- appropriate use of pressure-reducing devices/surfaces and proper patient positioning |



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