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QUESTION 1

Bilateral ovarian masses are identified on pelvic examination of a 40-year-old woman. Ultrasound examination reveals multiloculated cystic masses involving both ovaries. The patient is treated with total abdominal hysterectomy with removal of both adnexa. Pathologic examination demonstrates papillary carcinoma producing serous fluid. Which of the following tumor markers would be most useful in monitoring for recurrence?

- A. Alpha-fetoprotein
- B. Bombesin
- C. CA-125
- D. PSA
- E. S-100

Correct Answer: C

Explanation:

The tumors are serous papillary cystadenocarcinomas of the ovaries. These tumors express CA-125 and are apparently derived from the surface epithelium of the ovaries. Alpha-fetoprotein is not produced by this type of ovarian tumor but can be produced by testicular tumors and, less commonly, by ovarian tumors with a yolk sac tumor component. Bombesin is a marker for neuroblastoma, small cell carcinoma, gastric carcinoma, and pancreatic carcinoma. PSA is a marker for prostatic carcinoma. S-100 is a marker for melanoma, neural tumors, and astrocytoma.

QUESTION 2

Which of the following syndromes corresponds to: maternal genetic phenotype syndrome?

- A. Brown-Sequard syndrome
- B. Thoracic outlet syndrome
- C. Angelman's syndrome
- D. Goodpasture's syndrome

Correct Answer: C

QUESTION 3

An 18-month-old male is brought to the physician due to mental retardation and abdominal distention. Physical examination reveals enlargement of the liver and spleen. Fundoscopy reveals a cherry red spot on the macula. The most likely other finding in this patient is increased levels of

- A. ceramide trihexoside

- B. cerebroside sulfate
- C. galactocerebroside
- D. GM2 ganglioside
- E. sphingomyelin

Correct Answer: E

Explanation:

This patient most likely has Niemann-Pick disease which is an autosomal recessive lysosomal storage disease caused by a deficiency of sphingomyelinase. It is more common in Ashkenazi Jews. Deficiency of sphingomyelinase leads to the accumulation of sphingomyelin, progressive neurodegeneration, hepatosplenomegaly and lipid laden macrophages also called foam cells. Similar to Tay-Sachs disease, a "cherry-red" spot can be seen on the macula.

QUESTION 4

Which of the following is considered a xanthine?

- A. Acetylcysteine
- B. Guaifenesin
- C. Theophylline
- D. Epinephrine HCL

Correct Answer: C

QUESTION 5

A 45-year-old female comes to the physician because of headaches and palpitations. Vitals reveal a blood pressure of 190/140 mm Hg and a heart rate of 105/min. A CT scan of the abdomen is obtained which reveals an adrenal mass. The hormones secreted by the adrenal mass are derived from:

- A. arginine
- B. glutamate
- C. glycine
- D. tryptophan
- E. tyrosine

Correct Answer: E

Explanation:

This patient has an adrenal pheochromocytoma which is the most common adrenal medullar tumor in adults. It usually presents with episodic hypertension, headaches and palpitations. The tumor arises from the sympathetic chromaffin cells in the adrenal gland hence it secretes catecholamines such as epinephrine, norepinephrine and dopamine which are derived from tyrosine.

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