

USMLE-STEP-2^{Q&As}

United States Medical Licensing Step 2

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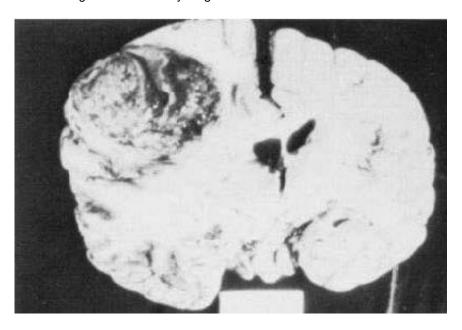
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QUESTION 1

A 57-year-old man complains of worsening headache, nausea, and vomiting for 2 months. On examination, he is lethargic, confused, and has right-sided weakness. While waiting for a computed tomography (CT) scan, he develops status epilepticus, suffers cardiorespiratory arrest, and dies. His brain at autopsy is shown in the figure below. Which of the following is the most likely diagnosis?



A. glioma

B. meningioma

C. craniopharyngioma

D. pituitary adenoma

E. acoustic neuroma

Correct Answer: A

The autopsy specimen illustrated in Figure contains a large, multicolored, irregular tumor invading the left hemisphere. There is hemorrhage, necrosis, and surrounding edema. The clinical and pathologic findings are most compatible with a diagnosis of malignant glioma (astrocytoma). Glioma is a highly malignant tumor of astrocytic cells and is the most common primary brain tumor. It infiltrates widely, often involving multiple lobes, as well as the opposite hemisphere via the corpus callosum. Prognosis is poor, with an average survival time of 6 months after diagnosis. Meningiomas are benign primary brain tumors that are usually slow growing and occur outside of the hemispheres, where they are well encapsulated and compressed but do not invade brain tissue. Craniopharyngiomas arise from remnants of Rathke\\'s pouch (the craniopharyngeal anlage). They are usually benign, well encapsulated, and found in or near the sella turcica. Acoustic neuromas arise from the root of the eighth cranial nerve in the cerebellopontine angle. Like meningiomas, they are encapsulated and compressed rather than invade brain substance

QUESTION 2

Apatient reports that, on his way to the hospital, he saw a man feeding two squirrels in the park. He says that this



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means his future will be decided in 2 weeks. This man, he believes, is deliberately out to alarm him (the patient). One of the squirrels is scheming with the man; the other is innocent and trusting. Which of the following terms best describes what this man is experiencing?

- A. illusions
- B. hallucinations
- C. delusions
- D. loosened associations
- E. neologisms

Correct Answer: C

Delusions are false ideas that cannot be corrected by reasoning and that are not based on reality. Psychotic patients often experience ideas or delusions of reference and misinterpret incidents or events in the outside world as having direct personal reference to themselves. Delusions may occur in a variety of psychiatric disorders, including schizophrenia, paranoia, mania, depression, and organic brain syndromes. The bizarre nature of the delusion described in the question is more characteristic of schizophrenia than of other types of psychiatric ailments. Illusions are sensory misperceptions that occasionally may be experienced even by normal individuals. Psychotic persons may report hallucinations, which are sensory experiences that cannot be substantiated by normal observers. Loosened associations and neologisms are patterns of speech often noted in psychotic individuals.

QUESTION 3

A 70-year-old man presents with shuffling gait, tremor, masked facies, and rigidity which have progressed over the last 9 months. Parkinson\\'s disease is diagnosed. Which of the following is not true about Parkinson\\'s disease?

- A. Over 1 million people in North America have Parkinson\\'s disease.
- B. Mortality is higher in patients with Parkinson\\'s disease when compared to age-matched controls.
- C. The classic triad of major signs of Parkinson\\'s disease is memory loss, rigidity, and akinesia.
- D. The tremor in Parkinson\\'s disease is typically an intention tremor.
- E. Over 90% of patients with Parkinson\\'s disease have a good initial response tolevodopa.

Correct Answer: D

Deficiency of dopamine primarily is responsible for the signs and symptoms of Parkinson\\'s disease. Specifically, the loss of dopamine from the substantia nigra is thought to be primarily responsible for the akinesia and rigidity. Tremor, akinesia, and rigidity are the classic triad of signs seen in Parkinson\\'s disease. The tremor typically is a resting tremor; often a "pill rolling" tremor is seen in the hand. Well over 90% of patients with Parkinson\\'s disease do have a good initial response to levodopa

QUESTION 4

After an appropriate diagnostic evaluation, a 59-year-old woman with postmenopausal bleeding had a total abdominal hysterectomy and bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy (TAH-BSO). The pathologic diagnosis is adenocarcinoma of the endometrium. An endometrial adenocarcinoma that is confined to the uterus and extends more than 50% through the



myometrium is at which stage?

E. Blood flow is shunted to the ovarian veins.

Correct Answer: C

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A. IC
B. IIA
C. IIB
D. IIIA
E. IVA
Correct Answer: A
In general, gynecologic cancers confined to the organ of origin are stage I. Thus, this patient has a stage I cancer. In 1988, FIGO revised the staging of endometrial cancer from a clinical staging to surgical staging. Cancer limited to the endometrium is stage IA. Myometrial invasion less than 50% is stage IB, and myometrial invasion more than 50%, but not involving the serosa, is stage IC.
QUESTION 5
Why does ligation of the hypogastric (internal iliac) artery effectively control intractable pelvic hemorrhage?
A. There is no collateral circulation to the uterus.
B. Uterine blood flow is stopped.
C. Arterial pulse pressure to the uterus is reduced.
D. Clotting in uterine capillaries is enhanced.

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Bilateral hypogastric artery ligation converts the arterial system into a venous system; thereby, reducing the pulse pressure by as much as 85%. Subsequent menstrual function and fertility are normal, in part because of the rich collateral circulation to the uterus. The procedure is successful in approximately 50% of cases. The procedure is not