This is an official CAOP sample paper produced by the Australian Pharmacy Council Ltd (APC) for practice purposes only.

All questions in this sample paper are no longer used in live or actual examinations and have been chosen to allow interns to gain exposure to the type of content and layout of questions on the examination. Live or actual Intern Written Examinations delivered contemporaneously will vary from this sample paper.

The CAOP is 106-question long and candidates have 3 hours to complete it. Due to the frequent changes to the scope and content within the practice of pharmacy in Australia, the APC does not guarantee that the information in this paper is accurate or relevant once published publicly.

The actual Intern Written Examination is delivered by computer and interns should visit the APC website for further information, including the online tutorial.
Q1  A patient requires a 10-day course of a medicine. The dose of medicine is 250 mcg once daily on days 1 to 3 and then 125 mcg once daily on days 4 to 10. The medicine is only available as a 150 mcg dispersible tablet, stable on production for 24 hours.

What is the minimum number of dispersible tablets required for the complete 10-day course?

A. 20  
B. 16  
C. 13  
D. 10  
E. 8

Q2  How many mL of 90% alcohol, when diluted to 135 mL, produces 60% alcohol?

A. 60 mL  
B. 73 mL  
C. 79 mL  
D. 81 mL  
E. 90 mL

Q3  An infant requires a 3-day course of a 5 mg/mL prednisolone solution. The infant weighs 23 kg and is to be dosed at 500 microgram/kg per day.

What volume of the prednisolone solution is required?

A. 4.6 mL  
B. 6.9 mL  
C. 13.8 mL  
D. 19.2 mL  
E. 23.3 mL
Q4  A 100 kg patient takes 5 mL of 30 mg/mL ferrous sulphate solution (equivalent to 6 mg/mL of elemental iron) twice a day. What is the total daily dose of elemental iron administered?

A. 0.6 mg/kg  
B. 3 mg/kg  
C. 6 mg/kg  
D. 30 mg/kg  
E. 60 mg/kg  

Q5  A patient is prescribed clonazepam 0.8 mg per day. A bottle of clonazepam 2.5 mg/mL drops is provided, and one drop is equal to 0.04 mL. What is the prescribed dose in drops?

A. 80 drops  
B. 40 drops  
C. 16 drops  
D. 8 drops  
E. 4 drops  

Q6  A medicine is provided as a 1 g powder which, when reconstituted with 9.6 mL of water for injection, provides a solution of 100 mg/mL. The dose of the medicine for a child is 50 mg/kg/day in two divided doses.

What volume of injection is required for each dose for a 35 kg child?

A. 1.25 mL  
B. 2.5 mL  
C. 8.75 mL  
D. 12.5 mL  
E. 17.5 mL
Q7  An 80 kg man is being treated for ventricular fibrillation with lignocaine. The protocol for the lignocaine infusion (using a 5 mg/mL vial) is:

Bolus 1 mg/kg per minute for 2 minutes
Infusion 4 mg/min for 1 hour then
3 mg/min for 1 hour then
2 mg/min for 10 hours

What volume of lignocaine is required for the initial bolus and the first hour of the infusion?
A. 40 mL
B. 60 mL
C. 60.5 mL
D. 80 mL
E. 4820 mL

Q8  Calculate the total dose of alteplase administered for a 50 kg female based on the following dose regimen:

Bolus 15 mg
Infusion 0.75 mg/kg over 30 minutes then 0.5 mg/kg over 60 minutes

A. 15 mg
B. 16.25 mg
C. 62.5 mg
D. 52.5 mg
E. 77.5 mg

Q9  What is the MOST common side effect of inhaled corticosteroids?
A. Dysphonia (difficulty speaking)
B. Cataracts
C. Dysphagia (difficulty swallowing)
D. Weight gain
Patient Name: Tim Bowes
Address: 18 Poppy Parade, Waterford
Age: 34
Height: 182 cm
Sex: Male
Weight: 85 kg
Allergies: Penicillin (rash)

**DIAGNOSIS**

Presenting Complaint:
1. Community-acquired pneumonia (mild persistent)
2. Pneumonia Severity Index (PSI) = Class 1

Medical History:
1. Asthma

**LAB / DIAGNOSTIC TESTS**

**MEDICATION RECORD**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>15/11</td>
<td>Prednisolone 5 mg</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>vii mane</td>
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<td>5/11</td>
<td>Budesonide 40 mcg / dose</td>
<td>DPI</td>
<td>ii puffs bd</td>
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<td>5/10</td>
<td>Beclometasone 100 mcg / dose</td>
<td>MDI</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/10</td>
<td>Salbutamol 100 mcg / dose</td>
<td>MDI</td>
<td>ii puffs q4h prn</td>
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**PHARMACIST’S NOTES**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/10</td>
<td>Continuing therapy. Confirmed non-smoker.</td>
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</table>
Q10 What is the MOST appropriate treatment for Tim for community acquired pneumonia?

A. Roxithromycin  
B. Clarithromycin  
C. Gentamicin  
D. Trimethoprin with sulfamethoxazole

Q11 Following resolution of his pneumonia, Tim still does not have good control of his asthma. What is the MOST appropriate treatment option to help him get control of his asthma?

A. Add salmeterol 50 mcg i puff bd  
B. Change budesonide to fluticasone 500 mcg DPI ii puffs bd  
C. Add tiotropium 18 mcg daily  
D. Increase budesonide to iii puffs bd

Q12 Tim is commencing budesonide, what other change(s) should be made to his medication?

A. Cease beclomethasone, as effects are additive  
B. Decrease beclomethasone dosage to 100 mcg/dose i puff bd  
C. Step down beclomethasone, as stopping abruptly may precipitate an attack  
D. Continue beclomethasone, as these two medications act on different receptors

END OF PATIENT PROFILE
**Patient Profile**

Patient Name  **Ralph Minter**  
Address  **12 Nemesia Close, Tea Gardens**  
Age  64  
Sex  Male  
Height  175 cm  
Weight  72 kg  
Allergies  Nil known

**DIAGNOSIS**
**Presenting Complaint:** 1. Angina
**Medical History:** 1. Depression  
2. Hypercholesterolaemia

**LAB / DIAGNOSTIC TESTS**

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**MEDICATION RECORD**

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<td>14/11</td>
<td>Glyceryl trinitrate 600 mcg</td>
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<td>prn</td>
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<td>14/11</td>
<td>Amlodipine 5 mg</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>i mane</td>
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<td>30/10</td>
<td>Simvastatin 20 mg</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>i mane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28/10</td>
<td>Fluoxetine 20 mg</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>i mane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/10</td>
<td>Aspirin 100 mg</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>i mane</td>
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**PHARMACIT’S NOTES**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>3/10</td>
<td>Ralph has indicated he is experiencing nocturnal chest pain.</td>
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</table>
Q13  Ralph presents to you with a prescription for glyceryl trinitrate patches 10 mg / 24hr. What is the MOST appropriate regimen for Ralph for the use and application of glyceryl trinitrate patches?

A. Mane and leave on 24 hours
B. Mane and take off at 10pm
C. Only when pain is experienced and leave on for two days
D. In the late afternoon and remove in the morning

Q14  In an acute angina attack, which ONE of the following is the MOST appropriate way to use glyceryl trinitrate sublingual tablets?

A. Dissolve 1 tablet under the tongue and wait 5 minutes. Call an ambulance if pain persists
B. Dissolve 1/2 to 1 tablet under the tongue and repeat if pain persists. Call an ambulance if 2 repeats over 10 minutes do not relieve pain
C. Dissolve 1/2 to 1 tablet under the tongue. Call an ambulance if pain is not relieved after 15 minutes
D. Dissolve 1 tablet under the tongue and repeat every 3 minutes if pain persists. Call an ambulance if 4 repeats over 15 minutes do not relieve pain

Q15  Following the initiation of therapy with fluoxetine in this patient, the maximal anti-depressant effects is MOST likely achieved after:

A. 1 week
B. 10 days
C. 4 weeks
D. 12 weeks

Q16  Along with swelling of the ankles, which ONE of the following side effects is MOST commonly observed with amlodipine?
A. Cough
B. Sedation
C. Chest pain
D. Dizziness

END OF PATIENT PROFILE

Q17 Which ONE of the following statements about a Permethrin 5% cream is MOST appropriate?
Permethrin 5% cream when used for scabies:

A. should be applied daily for one week
B. should be left on for 8 hours
C. should be applied to warm, moist skin
D. is not safe to use in pregnancy and breastfeeding

Q18 A female customer has recently given birth and is breastfeeding her baby. Her doctor has prescribed the progesterone only pill and as she has not used this type of pill before, she has a few questions.
Which ONE of the following counselling points would be MOST appropriate for her?

A. The drug is not transferred in the milk to the baby
B. When commencing the pill it is necessary to use an alternative method of contraception for seven days
C. When breastfeeding ceases it will be necessary to change to the combined contraceptive pill
D. It must be taken within three hours of the same time each day
**Patient Profile**

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Patient Name: **Stephen White**  
Address: **14 John Street, Howden**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Height</th>
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<th>Weight</th>
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<td>70</td>
<td>178 cm</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>93 kg</td>
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**Allergies:** Nil known

**DIAGNOSIS**

**Presenting Complaint:** 1. Exacerbation of osteoarthritic pain

**Medical History:**
1. Chronic heart failure
2. Myocardial infarction
3. Depression

**LAB / DIAGNOSTIC TESTS**

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<tr>
<td>12/11</td>
<td>Creatinine</td>
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**MEDICATION RECORD**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/11</td>
<td>Aspirin EC 100 mg</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/11</td>
<td>Carvedilol 3.123 mg</td>
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<td>Frusemide 40 mg</td>
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<td>Ramipril 2.5 mg</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>i mane</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/11</td>
<td>Simvastatin 80 mg</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>i nocte</td>
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**PHARMACIST’S NOTES**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/11</td>
<td>Stephen is experiencing an exacerbation of arthritic pain in both knees.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q19  Which ONE of the following would be MOST appropriate to add to paracetamol for the treatment of osteoarthritis of the knee in Stephen?

- A. Tramadol SR 200 mg tablet twice daily
- B. Celecoxib tablet 200 mg once daily
- C. Fentanyl patch 12.5 microgram every three days
- D. Diclofenac gel four times a day

Q20  Which ONE of the following is NOT a potential adverse effect of Stephen’s carvedilol treatment?

- A. Bronchospasm
- B. Insomnia
- C. Tachycardia
- D. Heart failure

Q21  Which ONE of the following would be a suitable alternative to carvedilol in Stephen?

- A. Atenolol
- B. Bisoprolol
- C. Propranolol
- D. Pindolol
Q22 Stephen presents a prescription for clarithromycin to treat a respiratory infection.

Which ONE of the following recommendations should you make to the treating doctor?

A. Withhold fluoxetine for the duration of the antibiotic
B. Increase dose of fluoxetine for the duration of the antibiotic
C. Withhold simvastatin for the duration of the antibiotic
D. Change simvastatin to atorvastatin for the duration of the antibiotic

END OF PATIENT PROFILE
Q23  A 45-year-old male patient, stabilised on warfarin at an International Normalised Ratio (INR) of 2.4, has decided to go on a vegetarian diet.
Which ONE of the following is the **MOST** appropriate advice to give him about his diet?

A. You cannot go on a vegetarian diet whilst on warfarin  
B. Eat a consistent amount of leafy green vegetables day to day  
C. Take one iron tablet a day to maintain iron levels  
D. Increase mushroom intake for protein levels  

Q24  Which ONE of the following medications requires the **MOST** caution when treating pregnant women?

A. Vitamin A  
B. Vitamin B  
C. Vitamin K  
D. Vitamin E  

Q25  With regard to injector pens, when used for the basal-bolus regimen in the control of insulin dependent diabetes which of the following is **INCORRECT**?

Injector pens give

A. added independence for the visually impaired  
B. the ability to mix different types of insulin together  
C. greater discretion when insulin needs to be used in a public place  
D. increased flexibility to people with irregular lifestyles such as shift workers
Q26  The metalwork teacher from the local high school comes into your pharmacy with a student complaining of a red and painful eye. Upon examination you can see a small piece of metal lodged in the surface of his eye.

Which ONE of the following is the MOST appropriate action to take?

A. Irrigate the eye under a stream of cool tap water for at least 10 minutes
B. Recommend the use of anti-inflammatory eye drops, with the instruction to visit the doctor if the inflammation persists after 24 hours
C. Lie the student down and tell him to keep still, whilst you remove the metal with a clean pair of forceps
D. Close the eye, cover it with a bandage or sterile pad, tell him to keep his head still and arrange for transport to the nearest hospital

Q27  Which ONE of the following counselling points is MOST appropriate for alendronate?

A. It can cause osteonecrosis
B. Take in the morning with breakfast to avoid stomach upset
C. Take at bedtime to avoid possible drowsiness
D. Take one hour after a meal

Q28  Which ONE of the following medications is BEST taken half an hour before food?

A. Metformin
B. Flucloxacillin
C. Amoxicillin
D. Felodipine
George is an obese patient, with mature onset Type 2 diabetes. Attempts at treating the diabetes with diet modification have not worked. The MOST appropriate medicine recommendation is

A. insulin
B. a sulfonylurea
C. a biguanide
D. an alpha glucosidase inhibitor
Patient Profile

Patient Name  Amanda Brown
Address  115 Goublurn St, Hobart
Age  16
Sex  Female
Height  170 cm
Weight  78 kg
Allergies  Nil known

DIAGNOSIS
Presenting Complaint:  1. Dysmenorrhoea
Medical History:  1. Mid exercise-induced asthma

LAB / DIAGNOSTIC TESTS

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MEDICATION RECORD

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<tr>
<td>10/02</td>
<td>Terbutaline DPI 500 mcg/dose</td>
<td>1 OP</td>
<td>1-2 doses prn</td>
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PHARMACIT’S NOTES

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nil</td>
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Q30 What medicine therapy would be MOST appropriate for Amanda to relieve the pain of her menstrual cramping?

A. Paracetamol
B. Paracetamol/codeine
C. Mefenamic acid
D. Ibuprofen/codeine

END OF PATIENT PROFILE
Q31 A vial of insulin currently in use may be stored at up to 25°C without loss of potency for what length of time?

A. One hour  
B. One day  
C. Two weeks  
D. Four weeks

Q32 Agranulocytosis is MOST commonly associated with which ONE of the following antipsychotics?

A. Olanzapine  
B. Risperidone  
C. Haloperidol  
D. Clozapine

Q33 What is the LEAST appropriate SSRI for the management of depression during pregnancy?

A. Citalopram  
B. Paroxetine  
C. Sertraline  
D. Fluoxetine

Q34 Due to antidepressant use during pregnancy, there is potential for the onset of SSRI withdrawal effects in the newborn.

Which ONE of the following is LEAST likely to occur?

A. Drowsiness  
B. Tremor  
C. Hyperreflexia  
D. Difficulty feeding
Patient Profile

Patient Name  Cassandra Green
Address  86 North Terrace, Croydon
Age  21  Height  170 cm
Sex  Female  Weight  75 kg
Allergies  Penicillin (anaphylaxis 10 years ago)

DIAGNOSIS
Presenting Complaint:  1. Pregnant with second child (38 weeks gestation)
Medical History:  1. Recurrent mastitis with previous child
  2. Chronic depression

LAB / DIAGNOSTIC TESTS

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MEDICATION RECORD

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<td>1/09</td>
<td>Paroxetine 20 mg</td>
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<td>i daily</td>
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PHARMACIT’S NOTES

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<th>Comment</th>
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<td>Nil</td>
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</table>
Due to complications of mastitis with her previous child, Cassandra decides not to breastfeed this new baby.

Which ONE of the following is the **MOST** appropriate for the suppression of lactation?

A. Metoclopramide  
B. Domperidone  
C. Bromocriptine  
D. Cabergoline

If Cassandra did develop mastitis, which is the **MOST** appropriate antibiotic for treatment?

A. Flucloxacillin  
B. Clindamycin  
C. Ciprofloxacin  
D. Erythromycin

What is the **MOST** likely causative organism of mastitis?

A. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*  
B. *Escherichia coli*  
C. *Streptococcus pyogenes*  
D. *Staphylococcus aureus*
Q38 Which ONE of the following statements regarding the use of zolpidem is **CORRECT**?

Zolpidem:

A. Is a benzodiazepine
B. Has a long duration of action
C. Is recommended for use in children
D. Should be used with caution in patients with hepatic impairment

Q39 Mrs Jones, a 35-year-old woman, is a regular patient at your pharmacy. She reports pain in her Achilles tendon that appeared two days ago. She says that she had gastroenteritis on holiday in Thailand for which she was prescribed:

- Metronidazole 400 mg tds
- Ciprofloxacin 500 mg bd
- Ranitidine 150 mg bd
- Paracetamol/aspirin/caffeine 250/250/65 mg tds
- Mebeverine 135 mg bd
- Capsules containing lactobacillus

Which ONE of these medicines **MOST** likely caused the pain?

A. Metronidazole
B. Ciprofloxacin
C. Ranitidine
D. Mebeverine
Q40 Which ONE of the following electrolytes can be affected by high dose inhaled salbutamol?

A. Sodium  
B. Potassium  
C. Bicarbonate  
D. Magnesium

Q41 During a holiday excursion, a fellow passenger collapses and, when you check his vital signs, there is no breathing or pulse.

Which ONE of the following actions would be the MOST appropriate?

A. Immediately commence expired air resuscitation and continue until the patient can get medical assistance  
B. Apply cardio-pulmonary resuscitation until medical help is available  
C. Insist that the patient is taken immediately to hospital, which is a one-hour drive away  
D. Administer adrenaline (epinephrine) from the first aid kit because you suspect anaphylactic shock

Q42 A patient taking a nonselective monoamine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) should avoid taking which ONE of the following medicines concurrently?

A. Pseudoephedrine  
B. Temazepam  
C. Aspirin  
D. Paracetamol
Q43 Which ONE of the following beta-blockers has been proven to reduce both morbidity and mortality in patients with left ventricular systolic heart failure?

A. Atenolol  
B. Propranolol  
C. Carvedilol  
D. Sotalol

Q44 A regular female customer tells you that she feels a migraine is starting. She asks if her usual treatment is safe for her to use given that she is 8 months pregnant. She has previously used soluble aspirin and metoclopramide which has proven to be effective. What is the MOST appropriate safe advice to treat her migraine?

A. Aspirin and metoclopramide are safe to use throughout pregnancy  
B. Aspirin should be ceased, as it is not recommended in late pregnancy - the metoclopramide alone should be effective  
C. Aspirin and metoclopramide should be substituted with ibuprofen 2 x 200 mg three times a day  
D. Aspirin can be substituted with 2 x 500 mg paracetamol, taken with the metoclopramide
Patient Profile

Patient Name: Judith Bannis
Address: Room number 15
Age: 46
Sex: Female
Allergies: Nil known

Height: 170 cm
Weight: 63 kg

DIAGNOSIS
Presenting Complaint:
1. Advanced breast cancer
2. Bone metastases

Medical History:

LAB / DIAGNOSTIC TESTS

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MEDICATION RECORD

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<td>Ondansetron 8 mg</td>
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<td>i q 8h for 3 days</td>
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<td>17/9</td>
<td>Dexamethasone 20 mg</td>
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<td>stat</td>
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<td>1/9</td>
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PHARMACIT’S NOTES

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Q45  Judith presents with cardiac failure characterised by shortness of breath and peripheral oedema.
    Which ONE of the following actions is MOST appropriate regarding the doxorubicin dosing?
    A. The medicine should be ceased.
    B. The medicine should be left unchanged, as the cardiac failure is unrelated.
    C. The medicine should be changed to a six-weekly cycle and reduced to 35 mg.
    D. The medicine should be changed to daunorubicin 75 mg/m2.

Q46  The MOST likely indication for dexamethasone in Judith's medication profile is as what type of agent?
    A. Analgesic
    B. Anti-emetic
    C. Anti-cancer
    D. Immunosuppressant

Q47  Which ONE of the following statements about ondansetron is INCORRECT?
    A. It acts by central and peripheral 5HT \textsubscript{3} receptor blockade
    B. The dose needs to be reduced in severe renal impairment
    C. It is more effective for acute, rather than delayed, adverse effects of cancer therapy
    D. It decreases the analgesic effect of tramadol

END OF PATIENT PROFILE
Q48 Which ONE of the following statements about whooping cough is INCORRECT?

A. Whooping cough is caused by the organism Bordetella pertussis
B. Amoxicillin is the standard first line treatment for whooping cough
C. Adults may have mild illness experiencing only a persistent cough
D. Whooping cough is a highly infectious bacterial infection of the upper respiratory tract

Q49 Which ONE of the following combinations of medications is LEAST likely to cause serotonin syndrome?

A. Fluoxetine and dextromethorphan
B. Fluoxetine and lithium
C. Dextromethorphan and phenelzine
D. Dextromethorphan and codeine

Q50 When doxycycline is prescribed to travellers for malaria prophylaxis.

Which ONE of the following statements regarding doxycycline is LEAST appropriate?

A. Offers broad protection against malaria
B. Used in areas where there is mefloquine or chloroquine resistance
C. Used in patients with low tolerance for mefloquine or chloroquine
D. Used because dosing can be stopped on leaving an endemic area
Q51 A 36-year-old female patient telephones your pharmacy and complains of having a sore and swollen calf muscle, with no apparent reason for the problem. She is on the following medication regimen:

- Trimethoprim 300 mg one tablet at night
- Ethinyloestradiol 30 mcg/levonorgestrel 150 cmg one tablet daily
- Omeprazole 20 mg one tablet daily
- Citalopram 20 mg one tablet daily
- Naproxen 250 mg one tablet every eight hours when required

Which medication is MOST likely associated with her symptoms?

A. Trimethoprim
B. Ethinyloestradiol / levonorgestrel
C. Omeprazole
D. Citalopram

Q52 Which ONE of the following therapies is NOT appropriate for an 80-year-old woman who presents with post herpetic neuralgia?

A. Gabapentin 300 mg daily, titrated as tolerated
B. Capsaicin topical application
C. Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS)
D. Citalopram 20 mg daily to a maximum of 40-60 mg

Q53 A customer presents with a new script for felodipine 5 mg daily. Which ONE of the following points should you include in your counselling?

A. A warning regarding consumption patterns of grapefruit juice
B. The tablets may be crushed, if difficult to swallow
C. A warning regarding constipation and the need for a high fibre diet
D. A warning not to take potassium supplements while taking this medication
Q54 Which ONE of the following medications is strongly associated with constipation?

A. Felodipine  
B. Amlodipine  
C. Nifedipine  
D. Verapamil

Q55 Which ONE of the following medicines MOST likely needs a dose adjustment in renal dysfunction?

A. Prednisolone  
B. Allopurinol  
C. Indometacin  
D. Fluoxetine
Patient Profile

Patient Name: Phillip Derwent
Address: 5 Marigold Road, Katoomba
Age: 63
Sex: Male
Allergies: Nil known

Height: 180 cm
Weight: 80 kg

DIAGNOSIS
Presenting Complaint:
1. Nausea

Medical History:
1. Parkinson's disease
2. Gastroesophageal reflux
3. Gout
4. Insomnia

LAB / DIAGNOSTIC TESTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Reference Range</th>
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MEDICATION RECORD

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<tr>
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<td>5/11</td>
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<td>i mane</td>
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<td>5/11</td>
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<td>Allopurinol 300 mg</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>i mane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/11</td>
<td>Diazepam 5 mg</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>i nocte</td>
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PHARMACIT'S NOTES

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Q56 Which ONE of the following is NOT a sign of worsening Parkinson's disease?

A. Dysphagia
B. Dyskinesia
C. Myopia
D. Dystonia

Q57 Phillip is complaining of vomiting and nausea.

Which of the following is MOST likely to be prescribed?

A. Domperidone
B. Prochlorperazine
C. Metoclopramide
D. Ondansetron

END OF PATIENT PROFILE
Q58 When converting a patient from standard levodopa/carbidopa formulations to controlled release formulations, which of the following is INCORRECT?

A. Current therapy should be continued for the first two days  
B. Sustained release preparations have lower oral bioavailability  
C. The total daily dose of levodopa usually has to be increased  
D. The frequency of dosing with the controlled release formulations is every 8 to 12 hours

Q59 Which ONE of the following statements about ginger is LEAST appropriate?

A. Ginger has been used as an antiemetic adjunct to cancer therapy  
B. Ginger has traditionally been used for colic  
C. Ginger has no known drug interactions  
D. Ginger can cause side effects including heartburn, bloating and flatulence

Q60 Which ONE of the following medications is LEAST likely to cause gastric upsets?

A. Enalapril  
B. Sulindac  
C. Prednisolone  
D. Fluoxetine
Q61 Which ONE of the following side effects is **MOST** likely to occur with high doses of hydrochlorothiazide?

A. Photosensitivity  
B. Nightmares  
C. Urinary hesitancy  
D. Metabolic disturbances

Q62 Which ONE of the following medications may be taken at night to maximize its concentration in the blood and/or urine?

A. Trimethoprim  
B. Atorvastatin  
C. Mirtazipine  
D. Perindopril

Q63 Phytomenadione (vitamin K) is used for which ONE of the following reasons?

A. To counteract excessive heparinisation  
B. To supplement potassium loss  
C. As a vitamin supplement in children  
D. To counteract excessive warfarinisation
Patient Profile

Patient Name  Jane Smyth
Address  32 Smith Street, Ginninderra
Age  18  Height: 167 cm
Sex  Female  Weight: 60 kg
Allergies  Nil known

**DIAGNOSIS**

Presenting Complaint: 1. Worsening acne
Medical History: 1. Cystic acne
2. Failed treatment with doxycycline
3. Failed treatment with cyproterone / ethinylestradiol

**LAB / DIAGNOSTIC TESTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Reference Range</th>
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**MEDICATION RECORD**

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<tr>
<td>20/12</td>
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<td>20/12</td>
<td>Ethinylestradiol / levonorgesterol</td>
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<tr>
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**PHARMACIT’S NOTES**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Comment</th>
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<tr>
<td>20/2</td>
<td>Jane is distressed because her is acne not improving.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jane wants to try benzoyl peroxide cream in addition to isotretinoin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jane discloses she regularly fails to the take the evening dose of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>isotretinoin.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Q64 What is the **MOST** appropriate advice to give Jane about benzoyl peroxide cream?

A. It is not appropriate to use benzoyl peroxide cream when taking isotretinoin  
B. Exposure to more sunlight would be a better choice than benzoyl peroxide  
C. She would be better to add in an abrasive exfoliative treatment with the isotretinoin  
D. She would be better to use a product containing salicylic acid rather than benzoyl peroxide  

Q65 Which **ONE** of the following statements is the **MOST** appropriate with regard to improving Jane’s compliance with isotretinoin therapy?

A. Don't worry about the missed doses because the medicine is so potent  
B. Recommend a once daily dosage regimen in the morning  
C. Recommend she takes 3 capsules the morning following the missed dose  
D. Recommend she take 2 capsules in the morning and 1 at night  

Q66 Which **ONE** of the following adverse events is the **MOST** common during isotretinoin therapy?

A. Gastrointestinal upset including diarrhoea  
B. Dry lips, skin, and mucous membranes  
C. Aggressive behaviour  
D. Convulsions  

**END OF PATIENT PROFILE**
Q67 Which ONE of the following is NOT a symptom of hyponatraemia?

A. Thirst  
B. Headache  
C. Seizures  
D. Irritability

Q68 Following a dose of salmeterol, when is the effect maximal?

A. Instantaneously  
B. After 10 minutes  
C. After 3 to 4 hours  
D. After 12 hours

Q69 Which ONE of the following statements is CORRECT with regards to glyceryl trinitrate patches?

A. Useful in the treatment of unstable angina  
B. Remove and replace every 24 hours  
C. Cut to provide lower doses if necessary  
D. Apply for up to 14 hours/day

Q70 A customer who had a kidney transplant 6 months ago is taking ciclosporin regularly to suppress rejection. He has recently acquired a fungal infection under his toenails. His doctor phones to ask your advice on treatment of onychomycosis.

Which ONE of the following is the MOST appropriate medication?

A. Fluconazole capsules  
B. Terbinafine tablets  
C. Griseofulvin tablets  
D. Clotrimazole lotion
Q71 Which ONE of the following groups of patients are MOST at risk of tendon damage if treated with quinolones?

A. Patients on corticosteroids  
B. Patients between 20 - 50 years old  
C. Patients who have had a CABG  
D. Patients with heart failure

Q72 Which ONE of the following statements regarding the use of paracetamol for osteoarthritic pain is LEAST appropriate?

A. Paracetamol is the treatment of choice for mild to moderate, persistent osteoarthritic pain  
B. Analgesic effects of paracetamol begin approximately 30 minutes after oral administration  
C. Lack of pain control with paracetamol is frequently due to inadequate dosing of paracetamol  
D. Strong evidence suggests that the risk of hepatotoxicity from paracetamol is increased in patients with chronic liver failure

Q73 What is the MOST common adverse effect of alendronate?

A. Stomatitis  
B. Hypercalcaemia  
C. Osteonecrosis of the jaw  
D. Oesophagitis

Q74 Primary hyperaldosteronism results in which ONE of the following health outcomes?

A. Elevated blood pressure and low plasma potassium  
B. Increased potassium resorption at the proximal tubule  
C. Hyperkalemia in most severe cases  
D. A rapid, often fatal, loss of blood pressure
Patient Profile

Patient Name  Audrey Jones
Address  Wallaby Aged Care Facility
Age  80  Height: 160 cm
Sex  Female  Weight: 64 kg
Allergies  Dried fruit

DIAGNOSIS
Presenting Complaint:
1. Severe epigastric pain
2. Persistent and unresolved nausea

Medical History:
1. Severe dementia (worsening)
2. Transient ischaemic attacks
3. Depression
4. Falls / fractures
5. Osteoporosis

LAB / DIAGNOSTIC TESTS

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Reference Range</th>
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MEDICATION RECORD

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PHARMACIST’S NOTES

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<th>Comment</th>
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<td>Medications are current and ongoing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>37/1</td>
<td>Recommended doctor review patient’s medicines in light of her exacerbation of epigastric pain and nausea.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Galantamine 8 mg ceased.</td>
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</table>
Q75  An allergy to which ONE of the following requires that further considerations are met in excess of those normally in place for a person wishing to have an influenza vaccination?

A. Peanuts  
B. Sulfates  
C. Oysters  
D. Eggs

Q76  Which ONE of the following treatment options would be the MOST appropriate to relieve Audrey's nausea/vomiting?

A. Change metoclopramide dosage to 1 tds regularly  
B. Add ondansetron 8 mg bd  
C. Trial discontinuation of galantamine  
D. Increase pantoprazole dosage to 40 mg bd

Q77  Which ONE of the following tests may be considered to investigate her continuing gastric discomfort?

A. Colonoscopy  
B. B12/Folate  
C. Urea breath test  
D. Bronchoscopy
Q78 Which ONE of the following medications is LEAST suitable to manage Audrey's depression?

A. Sertraline
B. Mirtazapine
C. Doxepin
D. Moclobemide

Q79 Which ONE of the following medicines is LEAST likely to be contributing to Audrey's nausea/vomiting?

A. Galantamine
B. Calcitriol
C. Aspirin
D. Calcium carbonate

END OF PATIENT PROFILE
Q80 St John's Wort would be **MOST** suitable for which ONE of the following patients?

A. 40-year-old male anxious about a house renovation on warfarin for a previous deep vein thrombosis  
B. 20-year-old female anxious about exams and taking the combined oral contraceptive pill  
C. 26-year-old female anxious about starting a new job and taking a multivitamin  
D. 40-year-old female recently diagnosed with breast cancer on multiple medications

Q81 Which ONE of the following medications is **LEAST** likely to increase the risk of lithium toxicity?

A. Diclofenac  
B. Amiloride  
C. Frusemide  
D. Enalapril

Q82 Which ONE of the following Gram-negative bacteria is the primary cause of urinary tract infections?

A. *Escherichia coli*  
B. *Helicobacter pylori*  
C. *Shigella dysenteriae*  
D. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
Q83  A female customer has been taking isotretinoin for 6 weeks. She is about to go to Indonesia for 3 months and has a prescription for 100 x 100 mg doxycycline tablets i daily for malaria prophylaxis.

What should this customer be advised pertaining to her medications?

A. Advise her to take the doses of isotretinoin and doxycycline at least two hours apart
B. Advise her that the use of doxycycline for longer than two months continuously is not recommended and therefore alternative prophylaxis is required
C. Explain that the use of doxycycline with isotretinoin is not recommended and ask her to discuss alternative malaria prophylaxis with her doctor
D. Advise her to stop taking the isotretinoin during her trip, as isotretinoin will interfere with all drug alternatives for malaria prophylaxis

Q84  When counselling on the use of an azole antifungal cream, you would advise all of the following EXCEPT which ONE of the following?

A. Fungal infections will be eradicated after 5-7 days
B. It may not be necessary to use the entire tube
C. Apply at regular intervals every day
D. Keep area dry and open to the air

Q85  A mother is concerned her child has nits. What should you advise her to look for to confirm this suspicion?

A. Small winged insects in the child's hair
B. White eggs and live lice in and on hair shafts close to the scalp
C. White eggs stuck to the scalp and areas of redness on the scalp
D. Small insects in the child's hairbrush and on clothing
Q86 Which ONE of the following statements about colic is **INCORRECT**?

A. It usually ends when the child is 3-4 months of age  
B. The child will be otherwise thriving  
C. It often starts within the first month of life  
D. Various successful treatments exist

Q87 In regards to colic, which ONE of the following practices is **NOT** recommended?

A. Continuation of breast feeding  
B. Reduction of environmental stimulation  
C. Adherence to routines  
D. Change of usual feed times
Patient Profile

Patient Name: Thomas Jones
Address: 3 Wirraway Lane, Aspley
Age: 7 weeks
Sex: Male
Allergies: Rash

Height: 16 cm
Weight: 3 kg

DIAGNOSIS
Presenting Complaint:
1. Colic

Medical History:
1. Premature birth (34 weeks gestation)
2. Poor weight gain
3. Feeding problems

LAB / DIAGNOSTIC TESTS

MEDICATION RECORD

PHARMACIST’S NOTES
Comment:
10/11 Thomas’ mother requests ‘helpful’ advice on a range of issues, including colic, immunisation and cot death.
She thinks her son has colic as he has been unsettled over the last few days and asks for advice.
Q88 Thomas is due to have his scheduled 2-month vaccination soon.

Which ONE of the following diseases/organisms is NOT immunised against with the Australian Standard Vaccination Schedule at two months?

A. Measles  
B. Tetanus  
C. *Haemophilus influenzae* B  
D. *Streptococcus pneumoniae*

Q89 Thomas’ mother has also heard a lot about ‘cot death’ (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome; SIDS) and enquires about the current recommendations to prevent ‘cot death’.

Which ONE of the following statements of advice is INCORRECT, with regard to the baby?

A. The baby should be placed on its side  
B. The baby should not be over wrapped  
C. The use of antihistamines should be avoided  
D. Exposure to cigarette smoke should be avoided

**END OF PATIENT PROFILE**
Q90 A person has a recent soft tissue injury and asks for your advice.

Which of the following should you recommend?

A. Rest, heat, compression and elevation  
B. Massage, heat, compression and elevation  
C. Massage, ice, compression and elevation  
D. Rest, ice, compression and elevation

Q91 Which of the following statements is INCORRECT with regard to omega-3 fatty acids?

A. It is advisable for patients with high triglycerides to increase their intake of omega-3 fats  
B. Alpha-linolenic acid (ALA) is a plant-based omega-3 source from walnuts, flaxseed and soya beans  
C. Omega-3 fats are considered to be NSAID-sparing agents in the treatment of inflammatory disorders  
D. For patients with coronary heart disease, the recommended daily intake of omega-3 fats is the same as the daily dosage for primary prevention

Q92 A female patient age 63, taking thyroxine 100 microgram tablets daily, has recently been diagnosed with an arrhythmia. She presents with a prescription for amiodarone 200 mg daily.

Which ONE of these clinical tests would be the MOST appropriate follow up?

A. Creatinine clearance after two weeks  
B. Monitor thyroid function every six months  
C. Bone mineral density after six months  
D. Full blood examination after one week
Q93 Which ONE of the following medications is MOST likely to cause a photosensitivity reaction?

A. Chlorpromazine  
B. Haloperidol  
C. Clozapine  
D. Diazepam

Q94 A 25-year-old woman who is 16 weeks pregnant has a free T4 plasma level of 48 picomol/L (reference range: 10 - 25 picomol/L) and TSH of < 0.4 m/U/mL (reference range: 0.4 - 5 m/U/mL).

Which of the following statements in CORRECT regarding this scenario?

A. This patient is likely to have symptoms of lethargy, bradycardia and cold intolerance  
B. Thyroxine is not contraindicated in pregnancy and thus can be used to treat this patient without concern  
C. Carbimazole is the preferred therapy for this patient  
D. Plasma levels of iodine decrease during pregnancy as a result of foetal use and require supplementation

Q95 Which ONE of the following anthelmintics is LEAST appropriate for treating threadworm in a child under 5 years of age?

A. Ivermectin  
B. Albendazole  
C. Mebendazole  
D. Pyrantel embonate
Q96 Which ONE of the following is an expected adverse effect of long-term corticosteroid use?

A. Hypotension  
B. Easy bruising  
C. Extreme tiredness  
D. Hypoglycaemia

Q97 Which ONE of the following statements is CORRECT with regards to using glyceryl trinitrate spray for the first time?

A. Shake before use and discard 3 months after opening; a maximum single dose of 2 sprays under the tongue should be used over 15 minutes  
B. Prime before use and spray under the tongue; a maximum of 5 sprays should be used over 15 minutes  
C. Prime before use and discard 3 months after opening; a maximum single dose of 2 sprays under the tongue should be used over 15 minutes  
D. Prime before use and spray under the tongue; a maximum single dose of 2 sprays should be used and if necessary another spray in 5 minutes up to a maximum of 3 sprays

Q98 Which ONE of the following conditions is LEAST likely to cause elevated serum creatinine?

A. Diabetic nephropathy  
B. Rhabdomyolysis  
C. Renal failure  
D. Dehydration
PATIENT PROFILE

Patient Name: Dane Christiansen
Address: 85 Holloway Cres, South Port QLD 4036
Age: 62 Height: 180 cm
Sex: Male Weight: 70 kg
Allergies: Nil known

Diagnosis
Presenting Complaint: 1. Hyperglycaemia
Medical History:

Laboratory / Diagnostic Tests
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<td>Serum creatinine 0.17 mmol/L</td>
<td>(0.05-0.12 mmol/L)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/5</td>
<td>Urate 0.58 mmol/L</td>
<td>(0.2 – 0.45 mmol/L)</td>
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Medication Record
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Pharmacist's Notes
<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</table>
Q99  Dane has never had an attack of gout, but his urate level is elevated. Which ONE of the following is the MOST appropriate action to take?

A  Allopurinol be started at a dose of 100 mg daily
B  Allopurinol be started at a dose of 300 mg daily
C  Probenecid be started at a dose of 500 mg bd
D  No treatment needs to be initiated
E  Colchicine to be started at a dose of 0.5 mcg bd

Q100  Dane has a number of risk factors for cardiovascular disease. Which ONE of the following would be an additional risk factor?

A  Low homocysteine level
B  An elevated serum albumin
C  Hypertension
D  Postural hypotension
E  Poor renal function

Q101  If Dane was started on metformin, which ONE of the following statements is CORRECT in regard to this medication?

Metformin:

A  Can be used in patients with severe renal impairment with careful monitoring
B  Can be used in renal impairment but not below a CrCl of 60ml/minute
C  Can be used and its dose is not dictated by the state of the renal function
D  Can cause renal impairment and it should be ceased until renal impairment has resolved
Q102 Which ONE of the following is the **BEST** indicator of Dane’s ongoing blood glucose control?

A  Random blood glucose levels  
B  Three monthly HbA1C levels  
C  Weekly fasting blood glucose levels  
D  Regular serum creatinine measurements  
E  Regular urine testing

**END OF PATIENT PROFILE**
PATIENT PROFILE

Patient Name: Thomas Bean  
Address: 32 Hickory Drive, Melamine  
Age: 3 yrs, 2 m  
Sex: Male  
Height: 120 cm  
Weight: 14 kg  
Allergies: Rash following use of penicillin

Diagnosis
Presenting Complaint: 1. Pain and fever  
Medical History: 1. Otitis media

Laboratory / Diagnostic Tests
Date | Test | Reference Range  
17/3 | Temperature 38°C | 36.8°C plus/minus 0.4 degrees

Medication Record
Date | Medication | Quantity | Sig

Pharmacist's Notes
Date | Comment  
17/3 | Thomas has been experiencing localised pain in the ear for 2 days, which has not resolved with regular paracetamol use.
Q103 If Thomas' mother is using paracetamol mixture 100 mg/mL, what directions are MOST appropriate for Thomas?

A  1.4 mL 4 hourly, maximum 5 doses in 24 hours  
B  2.1 mL 4-6 hourly, maximum 4 doses in 24 hours  
C  4.2 mL 4-6 hourly, maximum 4 doses in 24 hours  
D  1.2 mL 4-6 hourly, maximum 4 doses in 24 hours  
E  4.2 mL 8 hourly, maximum 3 doses in 24 hours

Q104 After five days of treatment, Thomas develops severe diarrhoea with the antibiotics that he is using. Which ONE of the following is the MOST appropriate treatment?

A  Cease the antibiotics and encourage fluids  
B  Cease antibiotic and use loperamide 2 mg stat and after each loose bowel motion  
C  Continue the antibiotics and encourage fluids  
D  Continue the antibiotics and use loperamide 2 mg stat and after each loose bowel motion  
E  Change antibiotics to another agent

Q105 Which ONE of the following organisms is MOST likely to cause otitis media?

A  *Staphylococcus aureus*  
B  *Escherichia coli*  
C  *Streptococcus pneumoniae*  
D  *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*  
E  *Aspergillus*

END OF PATIENT PROFILE
Mrs Bailey is a 67-year-old woman who is a regular customer in your pharmacy. She has a long history of mild heart failure and is well maintained on: frusemide 40 mg, two tablets morning and potassium chloride tablets 600 mg (sustained release), one tablet twice daily.

Her general practitioner, Dr Forrester, comes into the pharmacy and gives you a prescription for: enalapril 5 mg, one tablet twice daily.

He tells you that he has visited Mrs Bailey at home and found her suffering from what he believes to be an exacerbation of her heart failure, together with mild hypertension.

He requests that you give Mrs Bailey written advice about starting her enalapril. He also wants her to cease taking her potassium chloride tablets. He has arranged for Mrs Bailey's neighbour to collect the enalapril later in the afternoon.

Write a letter to Mrs Bailey advising her of the changes to her regimen for the treatment of her heart failure and hypertension. Detail any other precautionary advice and counselling points you consider necessary.
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<th>Question</th>
<th>Correct Answer</th>
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