



Clinical challenge



Questions for this month's clinical challenge are based on theme articles in this issue. The style and scope of questions is in keeping with the MCQ of the College Fellowship exam. The quiz is endorsed by the RACGP Quality Assurance and Continuing Professional Development Program and has been allocated 4 CPD points per issue. Answers to this clinical challenge will be published next month, and are available immediately following successful completion online at: www.racgp.org.au/clinicalchallenge. *Steve Trumble*

SINGLE COMPLETION ITEMS

DIRECTIONS Each of the questions or incomplete statements below is followed by five suggested answers or completions. Select the most appropriate statement as your answer.

Case 1 – Chris Dornan

Chris Dornan has been a registrar in your practice for a month now and seemed to be settling in well. Yesterday, however, a young mother with a sick child complained to the practice manager that Chris seemed bored and dismissive of her concerns. 'The doctor spent the whole time tapping on the computer and didn't even look at me or my child!' she said.

Question 1

When giving feedback to Chris, you should:

- A. wait until the end of the term so as not to 'rock the boat'
- B. discuss generalities only so as not to breach patient confidentiality
- C. focus only on the positives
- D. describe the behaviour that has been observed
- E. suggest that Chris seems more interested in computers than in people.

Question 2

In giving feedback, the concept of 'kairos' refers to:

- A. choosing the right time to act
- B. allowing the learner to self appraise first
- C. having a colleague available to play 'good cop, bad cop'
- D. focussing on the positives
- E. finishing with a clear action plan.

Question 3

Some words that are likely to be most effective in changing Chris's behaviour are:

- A. 'You pay too much attention to the computer – you have no interest in people'
- B. 'These complaints have got to stop and it's up to you to sort it out'
- C. 'How do you think the patient feels when you focus on the computer rather than them?'
- D. 'It's good that you are keeping thorough medical records'
- E. 'I'm really disappointed that this has happened'.

Question 4

Which of the following people are appropriate for the role of giving feedback to Chris:

- A. the patient
- B. the practice manager
- C. the reception staff
- D. other GPs in the practice
- E. all of the above.

Case 2 – Ina Riskal

Ina Riskal is pregnant for the first time. Her last menstrual period was 8 weeks ago. She presents to you asking about antenatal blood tests.

Question 1

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology recommend that HIV screening be offered to:

- A. all primigravidas
- B. all pregnant women with hepatitis B or C
- C. all pregnant women with a history of injecting drug use
- D. all pregnant women with tattoos
- E. all pregnant women.

Question 2

Ina asks about her risks of acquiring a sexually transmitted infection during pregnancy. Which of the following is true:

- A. the anatomical changes of pregnancy at the cervix may protect the mother from ascending infection
- B. the anatomical changes of pregnancy at the cervix increase the susceptibility of the mother to cervical infection
- C. the development of the chorioamnion decreases the risk of salpingitis
- D. the development of the chorioamnion is associated with an increased risk of infection via the cervical os
- E. all of the above.

Question 3

Ina has a recent history of successfully treated chlamydial infection. Which of the following statements is true:

- A. transplacental transfer of her maternal IgG will protect the fetus from any new infection
- B. a new chlamydial infection is likely to cause dysuria and deep pelvic pain
- C. urine testing for chlamydia PCR is unreliable during pregnancy
- D. untreated chlamydia in nonpregnant women can result in infertility
- E. all of the above.

Question 4

Ina is found to have positive VDRL and RPR screening tests for syphilis. The most appropriate initial step is to:

- A. recommend termination of pregnancy followed by appropriate antibiotic therapy
- B. commence treatment with penicillin in doses sufficient to reach the developing fetus
- C. commence treatment with azithromycin in doses sufficient to reach the developing fetus
- D. request specific treponemal antibody tests
- E. plan for premature delivery of the baby.

Case 3 – Julio Velasco

Julio Velasco is a new patient to your practice. He is a 17 year old student who has been well previously. He says he's feeling a bit flat since having a bad trip on some 'mitsubishis' last night.

Question 1

He is referring to:

- A. GHB (gamma hydroxyl butyrate)
- B. 'ecstasy' (3,4 methylenedioxymethamphetamine)
- C. ketamine
- D. cocaine
- E. a brand of motor car.

Question 2

When obtaining his drugs, Julio is most likely to get them from:

- A. a friend's home
- B. a delivery to his home
- C. a dealer's home
- D. a nightclub
- E. a dance party.

Question 3

Julio is most likely to:

- A. have a favourite party drug that he will use to the exclusion of all others
- B. complain to the receptionist if the doctor probes into his drug use
- C. use different drugs at different stages of the evening
- D. continue using party drugs as time progresses
- E. use party drugs on a daily basis.

Question 4

If Julio is accompanied by a parent, appropriate words to use that might reduce his risk taking behaviours are:

- A. 'Do you know how dangerous these drugs are when mixed together?'
- B. 'It's in Julio's best interests that I see him alone'
- C. 'Can you see how upset your drug use is making your parents?'
- D. 'We need to know who is supplying you'
- E. 'What can we do to help you with this problem?'

Case 4 – He Ying

He Ying never seemed entirely happy in her career choice. Despite being a busy GP in a friendly clinic, she spent an increasing amount of time alone in her consulting room and rarely interacted with the other practice staff. Eventually, the practice nurse discovered evidence that proved He Ying was self injecting pethidine.

Question 1

In initially approaching He Ying about her problem, it is best to:

- A. first contact the Medical Board and request that a case manager be appointed
- B. ensure that she has had plenty of time to sort the problem out for herself
- C. provide her with written documentation as evidence of her transgressions
- D. have another person present
- E. do it in a public place in case she gets violent.

Question 2

If her drug use is unaddressed, He Ying may well demonstrate problems with:

- A. poor memory
- B. indecision and errors
- C. persistent overwork
- D. erratic mood
- E. all of the above.

Question 3

In discussing He Ying's problem with her, it is important to:

- A. allude in general terms to the problems that have been observed
- B. focus on maintaining her professional reputation as the primary concern
- C. hazard a guess as to what is underlying her behaviour
- D. accept her explanations for her behaviour if they seem plausible
- E. arrange for her to cease work temporarily if patient safety is compromised.

Question 4

Doctors' Health Advisory Services:

- A. are only available in the mainland states of Australia
- B. are able to facilitate both assessment and treatment
- C. are required to report drug affected doctors to the relevant medical registration authority
- D. require hospital admission of drug affected doctors
- E. cannot accept anonymous referrals.