

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY

MMed Emergency Medicine
Final examination
MPhil Emergency Medicine
Written examination
16 March 2007

Clinical long answer paper

0900 - 1200

This paper consists of **FOUR** long answer questions. All questions are to be answered. Each question is worth 100 marks.

Answer each question in a separate answer book.

1.

A 45 year old female with a localized headache, low grade fever and flu like symptoms presents to your fully equipped Emergency Department with acute muscle weakness in her legs. Discuss your assessment and management of this patient.

2.

Discuss your approach to the assessment and management of a 6 year old child who presents to your Emergency Department with reduced level of consciousness.

3.

Discuss the clinical management of the following aspects of Epilepsy in the Emergency Department:

- first time seizures
- subsequent seizures in a known epileptic
- choice of anti -epileptic drugs
- relevant investigations and indications for referral

4.

Discuss the Emergency Department management of a patient who has taken a paracetamol overdose, including:

- High risk groups for both suicide and toxicity
- Clinical features of overdose in relation to the four stages of hepatic injury
- Emergency treatment of patients with: each stage of hepatic injury; staggered overdose; ingestion time unknown; IV access not available.
- Emergency Department psychiatric considerations, the mental health act, and disposition.