

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN  
STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY  
Faculty of Health Sciences

MMed Emergency Medicine  
Final examination

MPhil Emergency Medicine  
Written examination

25 March 2009

**Clinical long answer paper**

0900 - 1200

**NO CALCULATORS AND/OR  
ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT/AID WILL BE ALLOWED**

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 6 year old boy presents with an acutely painful red eye. He is tearing profusely.
  - a. What is the differential diagnosis; how can clinical features help distinguish between these causes?

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  - b. The child is very anxious and unco-operative. You decide to undertake procedural sedation to effectively manage the child. Discuss the options available for procedural sedation in a healthy 6 year old boy, and detail systems to be in place to ensure safe practice.

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2. A 6 month old boy is brought into your Emergency Centre with abdominal pain for 1 day.
  - a. Discuss your approach to diagnosis and management of this patient with respect to differential diagnosis, history, clinical findings and investigations.

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  - b. Discuss your fluid management including type of fluid and quantity if child was
    - i. Shocked
    - ii. 5% dehydrated
    - iii. Euvolaemic, but must be kept NPO

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3. A 54 year old female presents to your emergency centre complaining of feeling unwell. A 3 lead ECG monitor shows a wide complex tachycardia.
  - a. Give your differential diagnosis of a wide-complex tachycardia, and indicate how clinical and ECG features will help in distinguishing the different causes.

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  - b. Describe a protocol for junior staff to assist them in investigating and managing a patient with a wide complex tachycardia.

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4. A patient presents to your Emergency Centre following a Motor Vehicle Collision. He was a restrained driver. He is noted to have abdominal ecchymosis in the form of a lapbelt sign.
  - a. Discuss the sensitivity and specificity of a lapbelt sign in trauma and the assoc injuries  

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  - b. Discuss your Management plan (including the use and limitations of CT, FAST and DPL) for this patient in the following clinical scenarios:  
Patient is peri-arrest  
Patient is unstable  
Patient is stable.

80