

Revalidation assessment sample questions

The following are sample questions taken from past assessments. They show you the question format you'll be given.

As we've provided the correct response, these questions won't be included in any assessments.

The sample questions are based on past questions so may not represent current medical practice.

Question 1

A 55 year old woman weighing 61 kg is admitted for elective stripping of varicose veins under an epidural anaesthetic.

Which is the maximum volume of plain bupivacaine 0.5% that can be given?

- A 15 mL
- B 20 mL
- C 24 mL
- D 30 mL
- E 35 mL

Correct Response: C

Question 2

Several unsuccessful attempts at intubation are made during rapid sequence induction of general anaesthesia for an emergency caesarean section. Further help has been requested.

Which is the most appropriate next management step?

- A Attempt insertion of a laryngeal mask airway
- B Attempt two person manual ventilation
- C Needle cricothyroidotomy
- D Repeat laryngoscopy with alternative laryngoscope
- E Wake the patient up

Correct Response: B

Question 3

A 72 year old woman has had a pale, cool, painful right hand for 2 hours following multiple attempts to take blood for INR from her right antecubital fossa. She is on warfarin for atrial fibrillation. She has a large haematoma of her right forearm. Her right subclavian artery pulse is palpable but she has no distal palpable pulses.

Which is the most appropriate next step?

- A Elevate the arm in a Bradford sling
- B Measure forearm compartment pressure
- C Request Duplex ultrasound
- D Request MR angiogram
- E Take INR from left antecubital fossa

Correct Response: B

Question 4

A 14 year old adolescent with asthma is having an acute exacerbation. He is distressed and unable to speak in full sentences. His temperature is 37.5°C, BP 100/50 mmHg, pulse rate 130 bpm and respiratory rate 30 breaths per minute. His chest sounds quiet on auscultation and his trachea is central.

Which is the most appropriate initial investigation?

- A Arterial blood gas
- B Chest X-ray
- C Peak flow rate
- D Spirometry
- E Sputum sample for culture

Correct Response: A

Question 5

A 39 year old man has had a rash on his face for 4 days (see image).



Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A Atopic dermatitis
- B Coxsackievirus infection
- C Herpes zoster
- D Pyoderma gangrenosum
- E Staphylococcal infection

Correct Response: C

Question 6

A 24 year old man has had lower back pain for 6 months. He has experienced intermittent buttock pain in the past few days and woke this morning (4 hours ago) with severe stiffness. Which is the most appropriate diagnostic investigation?

- A Isotope bone scan
- B MRI scan of spine
- C Ultrasound scan of hip
- D X-ray of lumbar spine
- E X-ray of pelvis

Correct Response: D

Question 7

A 35 year old woman has had constant severe epigastric pain and vomiting for 6 hours. She drinks two bottles of vodka per day.

Investigations:

White cell count	$10 \times 10^9/L$	(3.0-10.0)
Bilirubin	10 micromol/L	(<17)
Alkaline phosphatase	100 IU/L	(25-115)
Aspartate aminotransferase	30 IU/L	(10-40)
GGT	120 U/L	(9-40)

Her erect Chest X-ray shows no free air.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A Biliary colic
- B Cholecystitis
- C Gastritis
- D Pancreatitis
- E Perforated duodenal ulcer

Correct Response: D

Question 8

An 18 year old man with asthma has gradually increasing breathlessness and wheeze despite regular use of his salbutamol and corticosteroid inhalers.

Which is the most appropriate next therapeutic step?

- A Add leukotriene antagonist
- B Add long acting inhaled beta 2 agonist
- C Add oral theophylline
- D Double the dose of inhaled corticosteroid
- E Replace inhaled steroid with oral corticosteroid

Correct Response: B

Question 9

A 40 year old woman has had recurrent abdominal pain for 5 years. She has consulted many doctors and had surgery on two occasions, but no cause has been found. She insists there is something wrong with her bowels as she continues to have diarrhoea.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A Conversion disorder
- B Factitious disorder
- C Hypochondriasis
- D Malingering
- E Somatisation disorder

Correct Response: E

Question 10

A 49 year old woman has abdominal distension. A CT scan of her pelvis shows an inoperable ovarian carcinoma. Palliative radiotherapy is recommended. Her family requests that she is not told of the diagnosis or prognosis.

Which is the most appropriate action?

- A Fully inform patient of diagnosis and treatment option
- B Indicate treatment to patient but not prognosis
- C Seek advice from a local ethics committee
- D Seek patient's view on level of knowledge they wish to have
- E Withhold information and diagnosis from patient on grounds of causing patient serious harm

Correct Response: D

Question 11

A 32 year old woman has noticed that her right eye is red whilst looking in the mirror. It is painless. Her vision is normal but the bulbar conjunctiva is intensely red. There is no discharge from the eye and the rest of the ocular examination is normal. Her general health is good, apart from a recent upper respiratory tract infection.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A Anterior uveitis
- B Conjunctivitis
- C Episcleritis
- D Herpes simplex keratitis
- E Subconjunctival haemorrhage

Correct Response: E

Question 12

A 66 year old man who has a 40 pack-year history has unequal pupil size. Visual acuity is unaffected and his right pupil is smaller, becoming more apparent in darker conditions. Pupils react normally to light and there is mild right upper lid ptosis.

Which is the most appropriate test to diagnose his pupil abnormality?

- A Chest X-ray
- B MRI scan of head
- C Response to topical cocaine
- D Response to topical phenylephrine
- E Visual evoked responses

Correct Response: C

Question 13

A 4 year old girl has a black eye. Her mother says she was hit in the eye by a ball thrown by her 6 year old brother. She also has unexplained bruises on her shoulders and upper arms.

Which is the most appropriate initial management?

- A Ask the patient what happened
- B Ask brother what happened
- C Contact the duty social worker
- D Report the mother to the child protection team
- E Telephone the local named paediatrician

Correct Response: E

Question 14

A 5 year old girl is due to have dental treatment under general anaesthetic. A heart murmur was noted at pre-assessment clinic. She is well. She has a grade 2/6 soft systolic murmur, most prominent in the left upper chest. The intensity of the murmur varies with her posture. No thrill is felt. Femoral pulses are normal.

Which is the most appropriate management?

- A Advise antibiotic prophylaxis for surgery
- B Reassure the parents
- C Request ECHO before surgery
- D Request Chest X-ray before surgery
- E Request ECG before surgery

Correct Response: B

Question 15

A midwife calls for advice as a HIV positive woman on the postnatal ward wants to breast feed her new born baby girl.

Which is the most appropriate advice?

- A Allow breast feeding
- B Encourage to give expressed breast milk by bottle
- C Formula feed the baby as breast feeding is contraindicated
- D Start breast feeding once baby is on anti-retroviral therapy
- E Tell family there is no guidance in the UK

Correct Response: C

Question 16

A 70 year old woman has had a disturbed mental state for 24 hours. She has become increasingly agitated, unable to sleep and suspicious of her son. She is responding to auditory and visual hallucinations. She has no previous psychiatric history.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A Acute psychotic episode
- B Delirium
- C Dementia
- D Manic episode
- E Panic attack

Correct Response: B

Question 17

A 55 year old man has been taking an atypical antipsychotic medication regularly for 2 years. His waistline is increasingly expanding.

Which is the most appropriate investigation?

- A Abdominal ultrasound scan
- B Cholesterol level
- C Cortisol level
- D Fasting glucose level
- E Thyroid function tests

Correct Response: D

Question 18

A 26 year old man has recently been diagnosed with a dissocial personality disorder. He has a shotgun license and he refuses to inform anyone of his diagnosis.

Which is the most appropriate management?

- A Contact the GMC for advice
- B Inform patient's wife
- C Inform the police
- D Respect patient's confidentiality and do nothing
- E Seek advice of psychiatrist colleague

Correct Response: C

Question 19

A 65 year old woman has recurrent attacks of choking. Her pulse rate is 84 bpm and BP 134/78mmHg. Her chest X-ray is shown (see image).



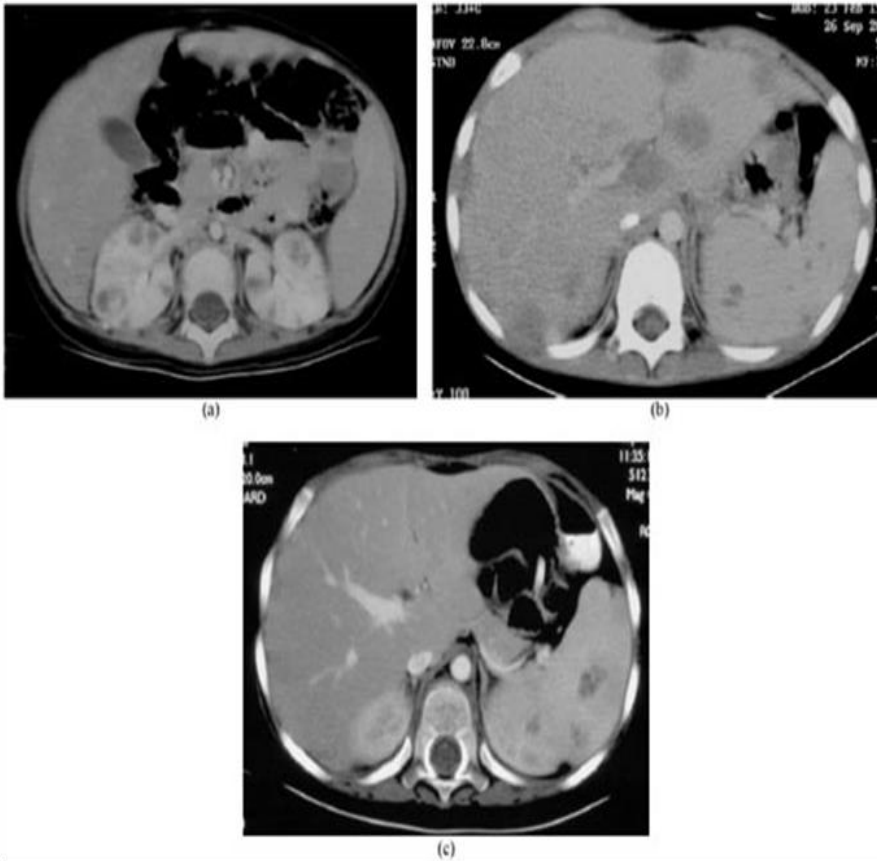
Which is the most appropriate next investigation?

- A Barium swallow
- B Chest X-ray
- C CT aortic angiogram
- D CT scan of thorax
- E Upper gastrointestinal endoscopy

Correct Response: A

Question 20

A 28 year old man has a cough and a raised temperature despite antibiotics. He has lymphoma, for which he has recently completed chemotherapy, and has undergone a bone marrow transplant. A CT scan of the chest is performed (see images).



Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A Fungal chest infection
- B Metastases
- C Posttransplant lymphoproliferative disorder
- D Recurrence of lymphoma
- E Septic pulmonary emboli

Correct Response: A

Question 21

A 25 year old man is stabbed in his upper abdomen with a knife. His airway is clear. His pulse rate is 100 bpm, BP 90/60mmHg and respiratory rate is 14 breaths per minute with good air entry bilaterally. His abdomen is tender with guarding in the epigastrium. His initial haemoglobin is 110 g/L (130-175). C-spine, chest and pelvis X-rays are clear.

Which is the most appropriate next step?

- A Explore stab wound under general anaesthetic
- B Explore stab wound under local anaesthetic
- C Give 4 units of cross matched blood
- D Give 4 units of O negative blood
- E Request CT scan of abdomen

Correct Response: A

Question 22

A 72 year old woman with skeletal metastases has left hip pain of moderate intensity which is making it difficult to weight bear. Her current medication is paracetamol.

Which medication should be added initially?

- A Diamorphine
- B Diclofenac
- C Fentanyl patch
- D Gabapentin
- E Morphine sulphate MRI scan

Correct Response: B

Question 23

An 82 year old woman had a fall. She has minor trauma to her knees and hands. She had similar episodes over the last 3 months. Her examination is otherwise normal.

Which is the most discriminatory diagnostic test to determine the cause of her collapse?

- A 24 hour ambulatory ECG
- B CT scan of head
- C Echocardiogram
- D Full blood count
- E Thyroid function tests

Correct Response: A