



Please note that the following Physician Associate National Examination (PANE) written examination sample questions are designed to provide an insight into the structure of questions in the examination, and to help candidates familiarise themselves with how questions are presented in a question paper.

The questions are no longer suitable for use in the real exam because they are either out of date, too technical, or have been used for a long time previously.

Publishing of the questions as a sample should not be seen as an indicator as to the content that will appear in forthcoming PANE written examinations. They are intended for general guidance only.

1. A 24-year-old woman goes to her GP surgery with a lack of energy and difficulty sleeping for the last 10 months. She has no interest in work or other social activities that she normally does. She has been avoiding seeing her family and friends over the last two months as she feels useless and feels that they are not interested in her. During the consultation she begins crying on several occasions.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. depression
- B. generalised anxiety disorder
- C. obsessive compulsive disorder
- D. seasonal affective disorder
- E. stress reaction

Answer: A

2. A 67-year-old man goes to the emergency department with left sided weakness in his face and arm for the last two hours. His temperature is 37.3°C, his pulse is 82 beats per minute, his blood pressure is 131/87 mmHg, his respiratory rate is 14 breaths per minute and his oxygen saturation is 96% breathing air.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. acute stroke
- B. Bell's palsy
- C. meningitis
- D. migraine
- E. transient ischemic attack

Answer: A

3. A 45-year-old man goes to his GP surgery after experiencing a burning sensation in the middle of his chest after eating meals over the last seven months. His BMI is 27 kg/m². He drinks 23 units of alcohol throughout each week and smokes cigarettes with a 5 pack-year history. His pulse is 76 beats per minute and his blood pressure is 129/80 mmHg.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. achalasia
- B. gallstone disease
- C. gastric cancer
- D. gastro-duodenal ulcer
- E. gastro-oesophageal reflux disease

Answer: E

4. A four-year-old girl is taken to her GP surgery by her father with difficulty breathing for the last three hours. She has had a barking cough and hoarse voice for the last three days. Her temperature is 37.8°C, her pulse is 89 beats per minute, her respiratory rate is 24 breaths per minute and her oxygen saturation is 97% breathing air. There is no stridor.

Which is the most appropriate management?

- A. advise to rest and drink regular fluids
- B. arrange for immediate ambulance transfer to the emergency department
- C. arrange same day admission to hospital
- D. refer to supervising GP
- E. request a prescription for broad spectrum antibiotics

Answer: A

5. A 67-year-old man goes to the emergency department with left sided weakness in his face and arm for the last two hours. His temperature is 37.3°C, his pulse is 82 beats per minute, his blood pressure is 131/87 mmHg, his respiratory rate is 14 breaths per minute and his oxygen saturation is 96% breathing air.

Which is the most appropriate initial investigation?

- A. carotid doppler
- B. chest X-ray
- C. CT scan of the head
- D. Electroencephalogram (EEG)
- E. MRI scan of the head

Answer: C

6. A 24-year-old woman goes to her GP surgery with a lack of energy and difficulty sleeping for the last 10 months. She has no interest in work or other social activities that she normally does. She has been avoiding seeing her family and friends over the last two months as she feels useless and feels that they are not interested in her. During the consultation she begins crying on several occasions.

Which is the most appropriate management?

- A. cognitive analytic therapy
- B. cognitive behavioural therapy
- C. compassion focussed therapy
- D. emotionally focussed therapy
- E. multimodal therapy

Answer: B

7. A four-year-old girl is taken to her GP surgery by her father with difficulty breathing for the last three hours. She has had a barking cough and hoarse voice for the last three days. Her temperature is 37.8°C, her pulse is 89 beats per minute, her respiratory rate is 24 breaths per minute and her oxygen saturation is 97% breathing air. There is no stridor.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. bronchiolitis
- B. common cold
- C. croup
- D. epiglottitis
- E. influenza

Answer: C

8. A 15-year-old girl is brought to the GP surgery by her father with a headache, feeling drowsy and very unwell. She has had a headache for the last five hours. Her temperature is 38.4°C, her pulse 130 beats per minute, her blood pressure is 100/60 mmHg and her respiratory rate is 18 breaths per minute. She has a petechial rash and purple bruises on her arms and torso.

Which is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. bacterial meningitis
- B. IgA vasculitis (HSP)
- C. influenza
- D. measles
- E. viral encephalitis

Answer: A

9. A 67-year-old man goes to the emergency department with left sided weakness in his face and arm for the last two hours. His temperature is 37.3°C, his pulse is 82 beats per minute, his blood pressure is 131/87 mmHg, his respiratory rate is 14 breaths per minute and his oxygen saturation is 96% breathing air. His CT scan of the head is consistent with an ischemic stroke.

Which is the most appropriate immediate treatment?

- A. alteplase
- B. aspirin
- C. clopidogrel
- D. heparin
- E. warfarin

Answer: A

10. A 15-year-old girl is brought to the GP surgery by her father with a headache, feeling drowsy and very unwell. She has had a headache for the last five hours. Her temperature is 38.4°C, her pulse 130 beats per minute, her blood pressure is 100/60 mmHg and her respiratory rate is 18 breaths per minute. She has a petechial rash and purple bruises on her arms and torso.

Which is the most appropriate immediate management?

- A. advise to rest and drink fluids
- B. arrange admission to the medical admissions unit that day
- C. arrange transfer to the emergency department
- D. request oral broad-spectrum antibiotics
- E. take blood for culture

Answer: C

11. A 45-year-old man goes to his GP surgery after experiencing a burning sensation in the middle of his chest after eating meals over the last seven months. His BMI is 27 kg/m². He drinks 23 units of alcohol throughout each week and smokes cigarettes with a 5 pack-year history. His pulse is 76 beats per minute and his blood pressure is 129/80 mmHg.

Which is the most appropriate initial management?

- A. advise antacid
- B. refer to gastroenterology
- C. request abdominal X-ray
- D. request OGD
- E. start trial of PPIs

Answer: E

12. A 15-year-old girl is brought to the emergency department by ambulance with a headache, feeling drowsy and very unwell. She has had a headache for the last five hours. Her temperature is 38.4°C, her pulse is 130 beats per minute, her blood pressure is 100/60 mmHg, her respiratory rate is 18 breaths per minute and her oxygen saturation is 95% breathing air. She has a petechial rash and purple bruises on her arms and torso.

Which is the most appropriate initial management?

- A. admit to medical assessment unit
- B. advise self-care and discharge
- C. arrange for senior review
- D. call resuscitation team
- E. observation and hourly NEWS score

Answer: C

13. A 24-year-old woman goes to her GP surgery with a lack of energy and difficulty sleeping for the last 10 months. She has no interest in work or other social activities that she normally does. She has been avoiding seeing her family and friends over the last two months as she feels useless and feels that they are not interested in her. During the consultation she begins crying on several occasions.

Which is the most important initial investigation?

- A. full blood count
- B. liver function tests
- C. serum ferritin tests
- D. thyroid function tests
- E. urea and electrolytes

Answer: D

14. A four-year-old girl is taken to her GP surgery by her father with difficulty breathing for the last three hours. She has had a barking cough and hoarse voice for the last three days. Her temperature is 37.8°C, her pulse is 89 beats per minute, her respiratory rate is 24 breaths per minute and her oxygen saturation is 97% breathing air. There is no stridor.

Which is the most appropriate treatment?

- A. co-amoxiclav
- B. dexamethasone
- C. no treatment required
- D. paracetamol
- E. salbutamol

Answer: B

15. A 15-year-old girl is brought to the emergency department by ambulance with a headache, feeling drowsy and very unwell. She has had a headache for the last five hours. Her temperature is 38.4°C, her pulse is 130 beats per minute, her blood pressure is 100/60 mmHg, her respiratory rate is 18 breaths per minute and her oxygen saturation is 95% breathing air. She has a petechial rash and purple bruises on her arms and torso.

Which is the most appropriate immediate treatment?

- A. high flow oxygen
- B. IM adrenaline (epinephrine)
- C. IV broad spectrum antibiotics
- D. nebulised steroid
- E. oral analgesia

Answer: C

16. A 45-year-old man goes to his GP surgery after experiencing a burning sensation in the middle of his chest after eating meals over the last seven months. His BMI is 27 kg/m². He drinks 23 units of alcohol throughout each week and smokes cigarettes with a 5 pack-year history. His pulse is 76 beats per minute and his blood pressure is 129/80 mmHg.

Which is the most appropriate treatment?

- A. amoxicillin
- B. cetirizine
- C. metoclopramide
- D. omeprazole
- E. senna

Answer: D

17. A 24-year-old woman goes to her GP surgery with a lack of energy and difficulty sleeping for the last 10 months. She has no interest in work or other social activities that she normally does. She has been avoiding seeing her family and friends over the last two months as she feels useless and feels that they are not interested in her. During the consultation she begins crying on several occasions.

Which is the most appropriate initial management?

- A. advise to return in one month if symptoms do not resolve
- B. provide advice on mindfulness
- C. provide contact details for self-help groups
- D. offer psychoeducation
- E. refer to community mental health

Answer: E

18. A four-year-old girl is taken to her GP surgery by her father with difficulty breathing for the last three hours. She has had a barking cough and hoarse voice for the last three days. Her temperature is 37.8°C, her pulse is 89 beats per minute, her respiratory rate is 24 breaths per minute and her oxygen saturation is 97% breathing air. There is no stridor.

Which is the most appropriate investigation?

- A. chest X-ray
- B. no investigation required
- C. peak flow measurement
- D. rapid antigen test for group A strep
- E. sputum culture

Answer: B

19. A 24-year-old woman goes to her GP surgery with a lack of energy and difficulty sleeping for the last 10 months. She has no interest in work or other social activities that she normally does. She has been avoiding seeing her family and friends over the last two months as she feels useless and feels that they are not interested in her. During the consultation she begins crying on several occasions.

Which is the most appropriate treatment?

- A. amitrypyline
- B. citalopram
- C. lamotrigine
- D. lithium
- E. olanzapine

Answer: B

20. A 45-year-old man goes to his GP surgery after experiencing a burning sensation in the middle of his chest after eating meals over the last seven months. His BMI is 27 kg/m². He drinks 23 units of alcohol throughout each week and smokes cigarettes with a 5 pack-year history. His pulse is 76 beats per minute and his blood pressure is 129/80 mmHg.

Which is the most appropriate lifestyle advice?

- A. avoid foods containing wheat
- B. eat a high protein diet
- C. eat smaller meals
- D. exercise regularly
- E. sleep with legs slightly raised

Answer: C