



ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

PART 2 EXAMINATION FOR FELLOWSHIP

NEUROSURGERY

FIRST PAPER - 2 Hours & 30 Minutes

MONDAY, 29 APRIL, 2002

Questions 1 and 2 must be answered and are of equal value

Question 1:

A 52-year-old woman, whose brother recently died from a cerebral aneurysm rupture, presents with headache and a CT scan suggests a 1cm anterior communicating artery aneurysm.

Describe the factors that influence formation, growth and rupture of intracranial aneurysms.

What further investigations would you recommend to this patient and what advice would you give her for management and prognosis?

What are the arguments for and against endovascular versus direct microsurgical clipping of intracranial aneurysms?

Question 2:

Write notes on

- (a) Sagittal craniostenosis
- (b) Intracranial dural arteriovenous malformations
- (c) Central neurocytoma
- (d) Glossopharyngeal neuralgia
- (e) Optic nerve meningioma

Question 3 - Please follow instructions as detailed on accompanying MCQ Papers

Neurosurgery MCQ Paper
(30 questions - 30 minutes)

Surgical Principles MCQ Paper
(15 questions - 30 minutes)



ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

PART 2 EXAMINATION FOR FELLOWSHIP

NEUROSURGERY

SECOND PAPER - 2 Hours

MONDAY, 29 APRIL, 2002

ALL Questions must be answered and are of equal value

Question 4:

Describe the pathophysiology, measurement and treatment of raised intracranial pressure following a severe head injury in an adult.

Question 5:

A 35-year-old woman presents with a 5-year history of headaches, worsening over the past 3 months, with episodes of obscuration of vision, especially on standing up. Recently, she has noticed some clumsiness of the right hand. On examination, she is alert and findings include bilateral papilloedema and a mild right hemiparesis. The MRI scan shows a large left parietal parasagittal meningioma with surrounding oedema.

Discuss the following:

- (a) the preoperative investigations required including the implications of the results of these investigations
- (b) the advice to the patient and family regarding the operation risks and limitations of surgery
- (c) the operative technique, including details of management of the superior sagittal sinus
- (d) the venous drainage of the cerebral hemispheres
- (e) the cause of headache and the mechanisms of obscuration of vision in this patient

Question 6:

Write notes on

- (a) Chiari malformations
- (b) Suprascapular nerve entrapment
- (c) Preoperative investigations required for evaluating a patient with temporal lobe epilepsy
- (d) Clinical features of tumours of the cauda equina
- (e) Pitfalls in the use of neuronavigation (image guided surgery) in intracranial procedures