



ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

PART 2 EXAMINATION FOR FELLOWSHIP

NEUROSURGERY

FIRST PAPER - 2 Hours

MONDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER, 2003

**All Questions must be answered. Questions 1 and 2 are of equal value**

**Question 1**

A 30 year old right hand school teacher presents with a 6 week history of severe neck pain and pain in the right arm to the thumb. The biceps jerk is depressed. There is no motor or sensory deficit. A CT scan suggests a right sided posterolateral C5/6 disc protrusion.

- a. Discuss the aetiology of a cervical disc protrusion
- b. Discuss non-surgical management for this patient and any further investigations which you might consider.
- c. Discuss the indications for cervical discectomy in general, and in relation to this patient.
- d. Describe the relative merits and potential complications of cervical disc surgery by the anterior and posterior approaches.

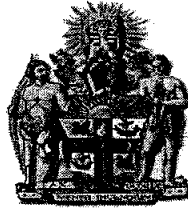
**Question 2**

Write short notes on the following topics:

- a. Management of the neurogenic bladder
- b. Prevention and management of ventricular shunt infection
- c. Spinal ependymoma
- d. Development of the cerebellum. Briefly describe anomalies of development
- e. Post operative follow up for patients with pituitary tumours

**Question 3**

Neurosurgery MCQ Paper - (30 questions - 30 minutes). Please follow instructions as detailed on accompanying MCQ Papers



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**SECOND PAPER - 2 Hours**

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**Question 4**

Give an account of the surgical options in the treatment of intractable epilepsy. Include in your answer a discussion of the diagnostic methods available to select surgical candidates and the relative efficacy of such surgery.

**Question 5**

A 33 year old woman has been referred to you by a neurologist with a diagnosis of benign intracranial hypertension. Repeated lumbar puncture pressures have been elevated. She has papilloedema and describes episodes of visual blurring. She is overweight. CT scan shows normal sized ventricles. CSF examination has been normal.

- a. Discuss the aetiology of benign intracranial hypertension
- b. What further investigations would you recommend?
- c. What are the treatment options either surgical or non surgical

**Question 6**

Write short notes on the following topics:

- a. Clinical features and management of the tethered cord syndrome in a child
- b. Surgical management of spontaneous intracerebral haemorrhage
- c. Pathological classification of brain tumours
- d. Management of incidental intracranial aneurysms
- e. Definition and diagnosis of brain death