

The background of the slide features a series of concentric circles in shades of light blue and white, centered in the upper half of the frame. The circles are semi-transparent and create a subtle, circular pattern.

**\*Medical student  
end of course quiz**

Sarah Hanrott

- \* A 73 year old lady with breast cancer presents with vomiting and an acute delirium. Her bloods are calcium 3.8, sodium 143, potassium 4.4, urea 23, creatinine 267.
- \* Which of the following is the most appropriate treatment?
  - a) Morphine, metoclopramide and rehydration
  - b) Cyclizine and a bisphosphonate
  - c) Haloperidol, rehydration and a bisphosphonate
  - d) Dexamethasone and rehydration

- \* A 67 year old man with lung cancer and bone metastases is currently taking four tablets of 100mg tramadol per day for left shoulder pain. His pain is not well controlled, especially at night. (Morphine is approximately 10x stronger than tramadol.)
- \* What do you do?
  - a) Convert to a syringe driver with 60mg morphine over 24 hours
  - b) Convert to a 75mcg/hour fentanyl patch
  - c) Add in modified release morphine 10-15mg as needed for pain
  - d) Start 20mg bd of modified release morphine and 5 - 10 mg of oramorph as needed

- \* A 56 year old lady with melanoma, previously fit and active develops early morning headaches, vomiting and diplopia.
- \* What would you do?
  - a) Prescribe levomepromazine and do a CT head
  - b) Give 4mg dexamethasone urgently
  - c) Do a lumbar puncture and refer to neurology
  - d) Prescribe cyclizine and dexamethasone 16mg and order a CT head
  - e) Start oramorph 5mg prn and metoclopramide regularly

\* A gentleman with an unknown primary cancer who has extensive liver metastases presents to you with an acute delirium. You start antibiotics for a chest infection. The following day he says he wants to die and does not want any treatment that will prolong his life and asks you to stop the antibiotics. His AMTS is 5/10.

Which of the following should you do first?

- a) Ask his wife whether this fits with the decisions he was making prior to the delirium starting
- b) Assess whether he can understand the consequences of stopping antibiotics, retain the information and can weigh up the pros and cons of stopping this treatment
- c) See if he can give a reason that makes sense to you as to why antibiotics should be stopped
- d) See if he has previously completed a DNAR form- if he has then stop the antibiotics

- \* An 85 year old lady with COPD on maximal treatment becomes short of breath on minimal exertion. She denies anxiety or panic attacks. She is on long term oxygen. Which of the following is your first step in treating her?
- a) Start 2.5 - 5mg morphine immediate release as needed and consider referral to OT for fan and relaxation therapy.
  - b) Start 2mg diazepam as needed for her breathing
  - c) Start 20mg bd morphine sulphate modified release and 5mg oramorph as required
  - d) Start a syringe driver with 10mg midazolam

\* A 69 year old lady with ovarian cancer and peritoneal metastases presents with nausea and occasional bilious vomiting, worse after eating. She has not opened her bowels for 2 days. She is pain free but takes 60mg bd of modified release morphine. This dose has not altered recently. On examination she has increased bowel sounds and a distended abdomen. Which of the following do you put in a syringe driver over 24 hours to control her symptoms?

- a) Morphine 30mg, metoclopramide and haloperidol
- b) Morphine 60mg, cyclizine and hyoscine
- c) Morphine 30mg, hyoscine and metoclopramide
- d) Morphine 60mg and metoclopramide
- e) Morphine 60mg, domperidone and levomepromazine

- \* A 63 year old lady with breast cancer and bone metastases presents with sharp shooting pain around her chest wall. On examination she has allodynia in a T6 dermatomal distribution.
- \* What do you start her on and why?
  - a) Morphine
  - b) Diclofenac
  - c) Gabapentin
  - d) Paroxetine
  - e) Fentanyl patches

\* A 45 year old man with oesophageal cancer and liver metastases starts vomiting undigested food after eating. Which of the following is true (may be more than one) ?

- a) His symptoms are likely to resolve after an ascitic drain?
- b) An oesophageal stent may help
- c) Steroids may improve his symptoms
- d) Ibuprofen may be helpful
- e) Do not give metoclopramide

\* Which of the following laxatives is most likely to be helpful for a gentleman with colonic cancer who has peritoneal metastases and ascites; he presents with severe colicky abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting and passing small quantities of hard stool?

- a) Senna
- b) Lactulose
- c) Fybogel
- d) Codanthrasate
- e) Sodium docusate

- \* A gentleman with advanced metastatic cancer demands that CPR be commenced. You and the team feel that it would be very unlikely to be successful and want to complete a DNACPR form. What is the most appropriate course of action?
  - a) Complete a DNACPR form and not discuss with him
  - b) Discuss this with his family and if they agree, withhold CPR
  - c) Explain to him that you are not going to start CPR and the reasons why

\* A 65 year old man with prostate cancer and bone metastases presents with severe pain in his back, worse on movement. It has continued despite doubling his dose of morphine. What do you do?

- a) Carry out a neurological examination to exclude cord compression
- b) If neurological examination is normal, speak to the Malignant Spinal Cord Compression Coordinator about a non-urgent MRI scan
- c) Start diclofenac and arrange to see him again in one week
- d) Start 16mg dexamethasone per day and review in one week
- e) If he has abnormal neurology then start 16mg dexamethasone and review in one week

\* The most important thing to tell relatives to do if a terminally ill patient has a massive haemorrhage is....

- a) To give an injection of morphine and midazolam
- b) To get green towels to soak up the blood
- c) To dial 999 for an emergency ambulance
- d) To phone the district nurses to come immediately to give an injection of morphine and midazolam and stay with the patient



\*The end