MRCPsych
Paper 1:
600 MCQs

JP

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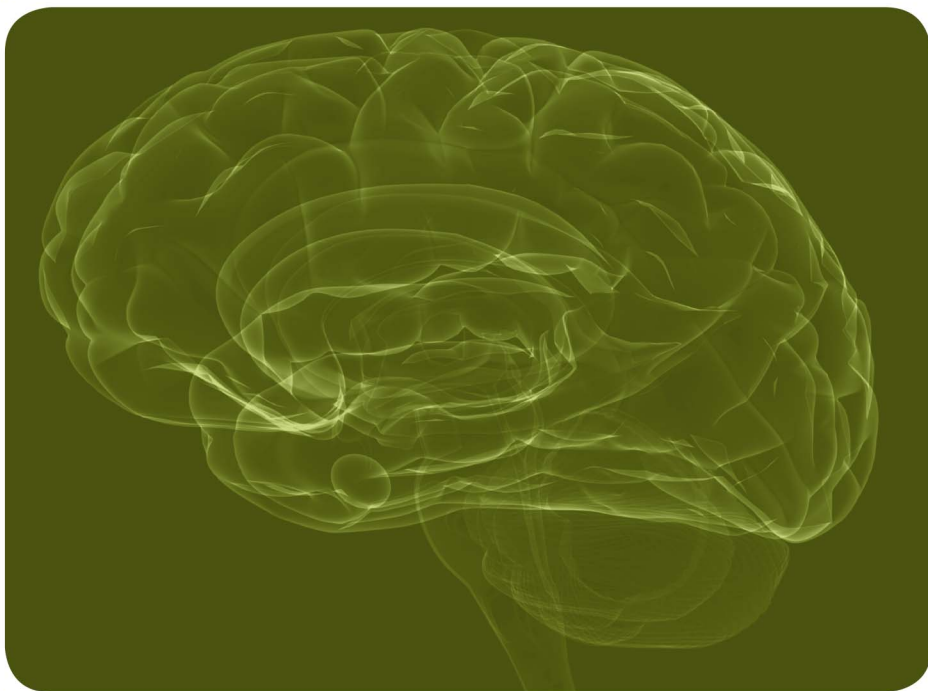
Contents

Chapter 2

Test questions: 2

Questions: MCQs

For each question, select one answer option.

HISTORY AND MENTAL STATE EXAMINATION

1. Which of the following describes blunting of affect?

    A Inability to show reactivity of affect
    B Incongruity of affect
    C Insensitivity to the subtleties of social intercourse
    D Limitation in the usual range of emotional responses
    E Stiffening of affect

2. According to the *International Classification of Disease*, 10th revision (ICD-10), which of the following is a criterion for an adjustment disorder?

    A The patient continues to function normally
    B The symptoms must occur within 1 month of an identifiable psychosocial stressor
    C The symptoms persist longer than 6 months in all types of manifestations
    D There is a correlation with drug-related problems
    E The disorder category includes separation anxiety disorder of childhood

3. While administering the mini-mental state examination (MMSE) to a 78-year-old man, he asked you what is being assessed by copying the diagram of interlocking pentagons. What would you say to him?

    A Attention and concentration
    B Comprehension
    C Constructional praxis
    D Copying skills
    E Geometrical ability

4. Over a period of 18 months, a 41-year-old man developed clumsiness, unsteady gait and poverty of speech. He appeared apathetic, depressed and paranoid. Which of the following is the most likely diagnosis?

    A Address test
    B Benton visual retention test
    C Digit span
    D Serial sevens
    E Spelling 'world' backwards

5. Which of the following statements is correct with regard to eliciting information from patients?

    A Closed questions are the least frequent causes of interruption
    B Most patients are allowed to complete their opening statement
    C Most patients present their problems in a logical order
    D Most patients take less than 2 minutes to complete their opening statement
    E The longer the clinician waited, the less information was elicited

6. The family of a 41-year-old man was concerned that over the past 18 months he had become clumsy and unsteady while walking. He appeared apathetic, depressed and paranoid. His thoughts have slowed down. Which of the following is the most likely diagnosis?

    A Alzheimer's disease
    B Creutzfeldt–Jakob disease
    C Dementia with Lewy bodies
    D Huntington's disease
    E Vascular dementia

7. Which of the following is an example of an open question?

    A Has your sleep been poor recently?
    B Have you been feeling depressed recently?
    C Have you lost any weight recently?
    D Have you lost pleasures in things recently?
    E How have you been feeling in your spirits recently?

COGNITIVE ASSESSMENT

8. Which of the following cognitive functions is assessed by the serial sevens test?

    A Concentration
    B Counting
    C Language
    D Orientation
    E Recall

9. Which of the following is the most accurate statement about the use of the MMSE in the assessment of a patient with suspected dementia?

    A A score of <23 is diagnostic of Alzheimer's disease
    B An average patient with untreated Alzheimer's disease will lose 3–4 points per year
    C MMSE has a high sensitivity for detecting language difficulties
    D Persevering on items that the patient finds difficult usually gives the best results
    E The scores correlate highly with detailed neuropsychological tests

10. A 78-year-old man was brought to the accident and emergency department after being found wandering about during the night. During his assessment, which of the following will help the clinician to distinguish between delirium and dementia?

    A Disorientation to place
    B Disorientation to time
    C Impaired consciousness
    D Inability to remember three objects
    E Irritability

11. Most of the neuropsychological tests do not allow one to guess. Which of the following test results is based on how much a patient can actually guess?

    A   Cognitive estimates test
    B   Graded naming test
    C   Paced auditory serial addition test
    D   Pyramids and palm trees test
    E   Stop signal task

12. What is the 'map search' test used to assess?

    A   Attention and concentration
    B   Intelligence
    C   Speed of processing information
    D   The visuospatial ability of a person
    E   Visual memory

13. Which part of the brain is assessed by the trail-making test?

    A   Frontal lobes
    B   Left parietal lobe
    C   Occipital lobe
    D   Right parietal lobe
    E   Temporal lobe

14. Which of the following statements about cognitive dysfunction in schizophrenia is correct?

    A   All individuals who develop schizophrenia have a cognitive dysfunction
    B   Impaired cognitive test performance in patients with schizophrenia is an epiphenomenon
    C   Low IQ at a young age is a risk factor for schizophrenia
    D   Schizophrenia does not cause intellectual decline
    E   Visuospatial memory functioning is a predictor of functional outcome in schizophrenia

15. Which of the following is a feature of the amnestic syndrome?

    A   Impaired intelligence
    B   Impaired procedural memory
    C   Impaired semantic memory
    D   Intact immediate memory
    E   Loss of memory of the period before the brain damage

16. Which of the following neuropsychological tests is found to be accurate in differentiating Alzheimer's disease from depressive pseudodementia?

    A   Addenbrooke's cognitive examination
    B   Clock-drawing test
    C   MMSE
    D   Paired associative learning test
    E   Wechsler adult intelligence scale

NEUROLOGICAL EXAMINATION

17. A 38-year-old man complained of an inability to see in the upper left corner of his vision. On examination, you found a visual field defect in the left upper quadrant of both eyes. Where is the lesion likely to be located in the brain?

    A   Left temporal lobe

B   Pituitary gland
C   Right parietal lobe
D   Right occipital lobe
E   Right temporal lobe

18. A 30-year-old woman gave a history of intermittent numbness, tingling in her limbs and visual impairment. On eye examination, you noticed that, on attempted left lateral gaze, the right eye failed to adduct and the left eye developed coarse nystagmus in abduction. What is the most likely reason for this abnormality of eye movement?

   A   Left cranial nerve VI palsy
   B   Left internuclear ophthalmoplegia
   C   Optic neuritis
   D   Right cranial nerve III palsy
   E   Right internuclear ophthalmoplegia

19. Your consultant has informed you that a patient who was recently assessed has Bell's palsy, with a lesion in the petrous temporal bone. Which of the following clinical features would indicate the origin of the lesion?

   A   Corneal ulceration on the affected side
   B   Failure of conjugate lateral gaze (towards the lesion)
   C   Hyperacusis
   D   Loss of taste on the posterior third of the tongue
   E   Normal furrowing of the brow on the same side as the lesion

20. You examined a patient with multi-infarct dementia. From your examination findings, you concluded that he had developed pseudobulbar palsy. Which of the following is consistent with this diagnosis?

   A   Emotional stability
   B   Fasciculation of tongue
   C   Gag reflex lost
   D   Reduced jaw jerk
   E   Dysarthria

ASSESSMENT

21. A 76-year-old woman complained of mild memory loss, mental and physical slowing, and difficulty in thinking for the past 6 months. On examination, she has a broad-based shuffling gait and a diagnosis of normal pressure hydrocephalus is considered. Which of the following features will help you to confirm the diagnosis?

   A   Acalulia
   B   Anterograde amnesia
   C   Apathy
   D   Ophthalmoplegia
   E   Urinary incontinence

22. A 25-year-old man with epilepsy and a mild learning disability is brought to the accident and emergency department with aggressive behaviour; he has also been found wandering on the street. He is taking carbamazepine, lithium and zopiclone. Which of the following will help you to understand the possible cause of his presentation?

   A   Electroencephalogram
   B   Erythrocyte sedimentation rate

C   Full blood count
D   Throat swab
E   Urea and electrolytes

23.   A 50-year-old widow is admitted with confusion and aggressive behaviour of recent origin. She is known to have renal failure and depression, for which she takes paroxetine. Which of the following will help you understand the possible cause of her presentation?

A   CT of the brain
B   Erythrocyte sedimentation rate
C   Full blood count
D   Serum paroxetine level
E   Thyroid function tests

24.   A 39-year-old man with chronic schizophrenia complained of a sore throat and fever. He was diagnosed as having MRSA (meticillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*) during his previous admission to the medical ward. He had been taking clozapine for the past 2 years. Which of the following will help you understand the possible cause of his current problem?

A   Electroencephalography
B   Erythrocyte sedimentation rate
C   Full blood count
D   Liver function tests
E   Urea and electrolytes

25.   An 18-year-old man is considering an application for a university course. However, he has a weak academic record in his school studies. He is regarded as outgoing, level headed, happy and well adjusted, with no previous history of behavioural or emotional difficulties. In response to a referral from his general practitioner, which psychological instrument will be most appropriate in assessing this person?

A   General health questionnaire
B   Halstead–Reitan battery
C   Minnesota multiphasic personality inventory
D   Symptom checklist-90
E   Wechsler adult intelligence scale–revised

26.   A 58-year-old chief executive of a National Health Service trust experienced a brief period of mild right-sided paraesthesia and a left-sided headache of 12 hours' duration. After 1 week, he saw his neurologist who observed forgetfulness, decreased understanding of complex information and diminished daily living skills. Which of the following is the most appropriate test in assessing this man?

A   Bender visual–motor gestalt test
B   Halstead–Reitan battery
C   Milton clinical multiaxial inventory
D   Projective drawings
E   Wisconsin card sorting test

27.   A 35-year-old single man with a narcissistic personality disorder had received insight-oriented psychotherapy for 1 year. The therapist felt that there was been little or no progress in the therapy for several months. Which of the following tests is most likely to reveal the personality dynamics that might be helpful in understanding the therapeutic impasse?

A   Minnesota multiphasic personality inventory
B   Projective drawings
C   Rorschach's inkblot technique
D   Sixteen personality factors questionnaire
E   Symptom checklist-90

28. Which of the following is a recognised as a poor prognostic factor in anorexia nervosa?

   A   Childhood obesity
   B   Early age of onset
   C   Low social class
   D   Male sex
   E   Poor educational achievement

29. Which of the following is the most common comorbidity associated with a panic disorder?

   A   Agoraphobia
   B   Alcohol misuse
   C   Depression
   D   Drug misuse
   E   Social anxiety disorder

30. A 15-year-old girl presented with a history of dieting and excessive exercising. Her height is 165 cm and current weight 50 kg. What is her body mass index?

   A   Less than 15
   B   Between 16 and 17
   C   More than 20
   D   Between 18 and 19
   E   Below the cut-off to diagnose anorexia nervosa

31. Which of the following is a common neuroendocrine change found in patients with anorexia nervosa?

   A   Decreased corticotrophin-releasing hormone
   B   Decreased plasma cortisol levels
   C   Delayed insulin release
   D   Exaggerated dopamine release
   E   Increased luteinising hormone levels

AETIOLOGY

32. A 21-year-old man informed you that he was a heavy user of cannabis. He was seeking advice about the risks associated with cannabis use. What would you tell him?

   A   Cannabis use can precipitate schizophrenia in people who are vulnerable because of a family history of the disorder
   B   Chronic cannabis use has no effect on motivation and social performance
   C   Long-term cannabis use causes physical dependence
   D   Long-term cannabis use causes severe cognitive impairment
   E   Long-term cannabis use does not cause tolerance

33. Which of the following is the best predictor of long-term general intellectual impairment after a head injury?

   A   Duration of post-traumatic amnesia
   B   Duration of unconsciousness
   C   Glasgow Coma Scale score on admission
   D   Retrograde amnesia
   E   Type of head injury

34. If a person starts smoking cannabis before the age of 15 years, what is the chance of developing a psychotic disorder before the age of 26 years?

- **A** Eight times more likely
- **B** Four times more likely
- **C** Six times more likely
- **D** Ten times more likely
- **E** Twice as likely

35. What is the prevalence of major depression in older people with congestive cardiac failure compared with cardiac patients with no heart failure?

- **A** 1:1
- **B** 1:1.5
- **C** 1:2
- **D** 2:1
- **E** 5:1

36. Which of the following structures is associated with negative symptoms of schizophrenia?

- **A** Dorsolateral prefrontal cortex
- **B** Hippocampus
- **C** Lateral ventricles
- **D** Mesolimbic tract
- **E** Third ventricle

DIAGNOSIS

37. A 69-year-old retired banker underwent major abdominal surgery. Three days later, he was noticed to be agitated, restless, confused and visually hallucinated. What is the most likely diagnosis?

- **A** Delirium tremens
- **B** Ekbom's syndrome
- **C** Ganser's syndrome
- **D** Korsakoff's syndrome
- **E** Lewy body dementia

38. A 65-year- old woman presented with a gradual reduction in her verbal fluency, motivation and self-control. She also exhibited a degree of disinhibition. Her EEG was normal. Which of the following best describes her condition?

- **A** Alzheimer's disease
- **B** Bipolar affective disorder
- **C** Depression
- **D** Frontotemporal dementia
- **E** Multi-infarct dementia

39. Which of the following is not a part of the diagnostic criteria for emotionally unstable personality disorder, according to the ICD-10?

- **A** Chronic feeling of emptiness
- **B** Involvement in intense and unstable relationships
- **C** Recurrent threats or acts of self-harm
- **D** Transient stress-related paranoid ideation
- **E** Uncertainty about self-image

40. A 21-year-old man was recently reviewed in the emergency department due to an increase in recent bouts of verbal aggression. He did not make any eye contact, continued to talk over the practitioner and was difficult to interrupt. He preferred his own company and had a rigid routine and a keen interest in collecting models of fighter planes. What is the most likely diagnosis?

   A   Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder
   B   Borderline learning disability
   C   High functioning autistic spectrum disorder
   D   Schizoid personality disorder
   E   Schizotypal personality disorder

41. A 19-year-old man was seen in an outpatient clinic after a referral from his general practitioner due to a long-term problem with concentration. On examination, he exhibited an abundance of thoughts which shifted from one task to another and a tendency to act impulsively without thinking through the consequences of his actions. He mentioned that he had lots of energy, his bedroom was in disarray and at work he would stop working on projects once the challenging part was over. He easily became bored with things and did not pay much attention to details. He easily misplaced and lost things. What is the most likely diagnosis?

   A   Asperger's syndrome
   B   Bipolar affective disorder
   C   Borderline personality disorder
   D   Hyperkinetic disorder
   E   No mental disorder

CLASSIFICATION

42. Which pair of clinical features is most likely to be present in persistent delusional disorder?

   A   Bizarre encapsulated delusions and systematised delusions
   B   Blunting of affect and delusions of control
   C   Mood congruent delusions and prominent affective symptoms
   D   Persistent auditory hallucinations and definite evidence of brain disease
   E   Prominent depressive symptoms and persecutory delusions

43. Which of the following statements is characteristic of the ICD-10 diagnostic hierarchy?

   A   Any given diagnosis includes the presence of all the symptoms of higher members of the hierarchy
   B   ICD-9 and ICD-10 have the same hierarchical structure
   C   Neurotic, stress-related and somatoform disorders are in the middle of the hierarchy
   D   Organic disorders are at the bottom of the hierarchy
   E   Schizophrenia and affective disorders are at the same level

44. In some cases of schizophrenia, the ICD-10 allows coding of a fifth character. What does this fifth character signify?

   A   Age of onset of schizophrenia
   B   Duration of schizophrenia
   C   Number of symptoms of schizophrenia
   D   Pattern of course of schizophrenia
   E   Subtype of schizophrenia

45. In the ICD-10, under which category is multiple personality disorder classified?

   A   Dissociative disorder
   B   Enduring personality changes, not attributable to brain damage and disease

C   Habit and impulsive disorder
D   Mixed and other personality disorders
E   Specific personality disorders

46. According to the ICD-10, which of the following categories includes paedophilia?

A   Disorders of sexual preferences
B   Gender identity disorder
C   Habit and impulse control
D   Other disorders such as adult personality and behaviour disorders
E   Psychological and behaviour disorders associated with sexual development and orientation

47. According to the ICD-10, which of the following categories includes the schizotypal disorder?

A   Affective disorders
B   Disorders of psychological development
C   Neurotic, stress-related and somatoform disorders
D   Personality disorders
E   Schizophrenia and related disorders

48. Which of the following is included under schizophrenia in the ICD-10?

A   Disorganised schizophrenia
B   Post-schizophrenic depression
C   Schizoaffective disorder
D   Schizophreniform disorder
E   Schizotypal disorder

49. According to the ICD-10, what is the minimum duration for symptoms of obsession and compulsion to persist in order to meet the criteria of obsessive–compulsive disorder?

A   1 week
B   2 weeks
C   4 weeks
D   6 weeks
E   8 weeks

50. According to the ICD-10, what is the minimum duration of symptoms to meet the criteria for generalised anxiety disorder?

A   1 month
B   2 months
C   6 months
D   1 year
E   2 years

51. In which of the following classification systems is a diagnosis of narcissistic personality disorder included?

A   Both the ICD-10 and the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, 4th edn (DSM-IV)
B   DSM-IV only
C   ICD-10 only
D   ICD-9
E   In neither ICD-10 nor DSM-IV

52. What is the duration of symptoms that meets the diagnostic criteria for somatisation disorder in the ICD-10?

A   4 months

B   6 months
C   1 year
D   18 months
E   2 years

53.   What is the duration of symptoms that meets the diagnostic criteria of delusional disorders in the ICD-10?

A   1 month
B   2 months
C   3 months
D   4 months
E   6 months

BASIC PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY

54.   Which of the following statements about the properties of trazodone is correct?

A   It has strong antihistamine properties
B   It inhibits monoamine oxidase enzymes A and B
C   It is a 5-hydroxytryptamine (5-HT$_2$) agonist
D   It is relatively safe in overdose
E   It strongly inhibits 5-HT reuptake

55.   Which of the following statements about the properties of donepezil is correct?

A   It blocks the damaging effects of normal excitotoxicity
B   Its half-life is about 5 hours
C   It is a carbamate derivative
D   It is a non-competitive, reversible inhibitor of acetylcholinesterase
E   It potentiates the action of acetylcholine at the nicotinic receptors

56.   You have assessed a 10-year-old boy, with diagnosis of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, who presents with complaints of severe abdominal pain. He has not taken his medication methylphenidate and clonidine since he ran away from home 2 days ago. He has undergone an extensive physical examination, drug tests and investigations, which proved negative. What is the most likely cause of his abdominal pain?

A   Clonidine withdrawal
B   Feigned illness
C   Independent physical illness
D   Methylphenidate withdrawal
E   Psychogenic pain

57.   What is the mode of action of atomoxetine in attention deficit hyperactivity disorder?

A   Calcium channel antagonist
B   Cholinesterase inhibitor
C   Dopamine reuptake inhibitor
D   Noradrenaline reuptake inhibitor
E   Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor

58.   Which of the following is a triazolopyridine?

A   Amitriptyline
B   Amoxapine

C   Diazepam
D   Dothiepen
E   Trazodone

59. Which of the following is a tertiary amine?

    A   Amitriptyline
    B   Amoxapine
    C   Desipramine
    D   Nortriptyline
    E   Protriptyline

60. Many of the psychotropic drugs can cause priapism. Which of the following is the mechanism for priapism?

    A α_1-Receptor agonism
    B α_1-Receptor blockade
    C α_2-Receptor agonism
    D α_2-Receptor blockade
    E β_2-Receptor blockade

61. Fluvoxamine is a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor. Which of the following receptors does it act on to improve cognition and depression?

    A   Dopamine-2 receptors
    B   Histaminergic receptors
    C   Muscarinic receptors
    D   Noradrenergic receptors
    E   Sigma receptors

62. Which of the following is a risk factor for developing a rash with lamotrigine therapy?

    A   Combining it with carbamazepine
    B   Combining it with an antipsychotic
    C   Exceeding the rate of the recommended dose escalation
    D   Being male
    E   Being old

63. For the past 2 years, a 42-year-old woman has been prescribed an antiepileptic medication as a mood stabiliser for the treatment of bipolar affective disorder. She has recently developed renal stones. Which antiepileptic drug is likely to have caused this problem?

    A   Gabapentin
    B   Lamotrigene
    C   Tiagabine
    D   Topiramate
    E   Vigabatrin

64. A 46-year-old woman is prescribed an antiepileptic drug as a mood stabiliser for the treatment of bipolar affective disorder. She complains of tunnel vision. Which of the following is likely to be the drug involved in this side effect?

    A   Gabapentin
    B   Lamotrigene
    C   Tiagabin
    D   Topiramate
    E   Vigabatrin

65. A 38-year-old man with a history of heroin dependence attended a party and took buprenorphine supplied by a friend. Which of the following symptoms is he most likely to experience?

    A   Bradycardia
    B   Collapse due to opioid overdose
    C   Constricted pupils
    D   Drowsiness
    E   Tachycardia

BASIC PSYCHOLOGICAL PROCESSES

66. A 3-year-old boy was specifically attached to his mother. He became uncomfortable when handled by other members of his family. According to Bowlby, at what age does this specific attachment start to develop in a child?

    A   1–2 months
    B   2–4 months
    C   4–6 months
    D   6–9 months
    E   30–36 months

67. According to the Ainsworth strange situation experiment, a 15-month-old girl plays independently when the mother is nearby but gets distressed when she leaves the room. She then seeks contact with the mother on her return. What type of attachment behaviour is this child exhibiting?

    A   Ambivalent
    B   Avoidant
    C   Disorganised
    D   Resistant
    E   Secure

68. A 30-year-old man gave brief answers or provided positive answers of their experiences without elaborating or explaining. According to Main's semi-structured Adult Attachment Interview, which type of attachment is most likely?

    A   Autonomous
    B   Dismissing
    C   Disorganised
    D   Preoccupied
    E   Secure

69. A 40-year-old woman with a borderline personality disorder became highly emotional when talking about her childhood memories. She often became angry and got distressed for no apparent reason. According to Main's semi-structured Adult Attachment Interview, which type of attachment does she have?

    A   Autonomous
    B   Dismissing
    C   Disorganised
    D   Preoccupied
    E   Secure

70. An infant was studied intensively and followed up at 5, 18 and 22 months. He seemed to adapt poorly to changes, had regular habits and exhibited mild intensity of emotional reactions. According to the New York Longitudinal Study, what type of behaviour does he exhibit?

    A   Difficult

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