

Please answer the following questions to participate in our certified Continuing Medical Education program. Only one answer is possible per question. Please select the most appropriate answer.

Question 1

How is neuropathic pain defined?

- a) Neuropathic pain is pain that arises periodically while a neuroma forms.
- b) Neuropathic pain is pain that arises as the direct consequence of a disease or lesion of the central and/or peripheral somatosensory nervous system.
- c) Neuropathic pain is a periodically arising, unilateral pain of the musculoskeletal system.
- d) Neuropathic pain is a paroxysmal, strictly unilateral, extremely severe type of headache that is felt mainly behind the eye and affects men and women in a ratio of 3:1.
- e) Neuropathic pain is pain that arises during palpation of the abdomen when the examiner's hand is suddenly pulled away.

Question 2

A patient presents to you with a complex regional pain syndrome. Which of the following is a correct designation of this patient's pain syndrome?

- a) Phantom pain
- b) Purely central neuropathic pain
- c) Mixed pain
- d) Purely peripheral neuropathic pain
- e) Purely nociceptive pain

Question 3

What is a realistic goal for the treatment of neuropathic pain?

- a) Recovery and maintenance of the ability to work
- b) 10% pain reduction at most
- c) Long-term total freedom from symptoms without analgesic medication
- d) Complete regeneration of damaged nerve cells through electrical nerve stimulation
- e) Short-term pain relief through physiotherapy

Question 4

Which of the following are common side effects of gabapentin?

- a) Headache, sedation
- b) Dry mouth, hypotension
- c) Extrapyramidal movement disorders
- d) Exhaustion and anorexia
- e) Daytime sleepiness and dizziness

Question 5

What, in particular, should the patient be told about before drug treatment is begun, in order to improve compliance?

- a) The drug's approval status
- b) The drug's performance-improving effect
- c) The possible delay before the drug takes effect
- d) The frequency of administration
- e) The cost of treatment

Question 6

What percentage of patients fail to respond adequately to treatment when all of the pharmacotherapeutic options have been exhausted?

- a) 0–20%
- b) 20–40%
- c) 40–60%
- d) 60–80%
- e) 80–100%

Question 7

Which of the following is the main clinical manifestation of central sensitization (i.e., hyperexcitability of the spinal cord)?

- a) Chronic phantom pain
- b) Decompression of nerve compression
- c) Better sleep
- d) Lumbar fusion
- e) Intensified spontaneous pain

Question 8

What is the clinical result of spontaneous activity in C nociceptors?

- a) Central sensitization
- b) Reduction of the activating calcium influx
- c) Mechanical allodynia and hyperalgesia
- d) Inhibition of norepinephrine uptake
- e) Hypesthesia

Question 9

Which of the following is a drug of first choice for the treatment of chronic neuropathic pain?

- a) Non-opioid analgesics
- b) Mirtazapine
- c) Tetracyclic antidepressants
- d) Beta-adrenoceptor antagonists
- e) Tricyclic antidepressants

Question 10

When, as a rule, should a drug for the treatment of neuropathic pain be entirely discontinued?

- a) When pain is relieved by more than 30%
- b) After three weeks of treatment
- c) After a successful drug taper
- d) When mild side effects arise
- e) When pain is reduced to < 3 on the Numerical Rating Scale (NRS)