

CLINICAL SCIENCES

International Council of Ophthalmology
International Ophthalmology Examinations

Clinical Sciences Sample Questions

Numbers of questions in each group

Clinical Sciences	Number of Questions
i) General Medicine related to Ophthalmology	20
ii) Community Medicine & Public Health	8
iii) Ophthalmic pathology and Ocular tumours	12
iv) Neuro-ophthalmology	20
v) Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus	20
vi) Orbit, eyelids and lacrimal disease	20
vii) Trauma, External disease and cornea	20
viii) Ocular inflammation and uveitis	20
ix) Glaucoma	20
x) Lens and cataract	20
xi) Retina and vitreous	20

On the answer sheet you have to put a BOLD HORIZONTAL line against the letter which you think correctly answers the question, thus:-

	Answer Number		a.	b.	c.	d.
Question number	1)		[—]	[]	[]	[]
	2)		[]	[—]	[]	[]
	3)		[]	[]	[—]	[]
	4)		[]	[]	[]	[—]

NB. These are not necessarily the correct answers to the above questions

Do not forget to mark your answers clearly with a HORIZONTAL line:-[—].
Oblique [/], even slightly oblique, or faint [-] lines will not be marked.

You do not HAVE to answer all the questions to pass the examination. Obviously, however, it helps!

There are no "trick" questions. If you do not understand the question you may ask the invigilator who may (but cannot guarantee to) be able to help you.

Question Formats

The formats vary, here are some examples. It is VITAL to read the questions very carefully. Be especially careful with negative questions- those with Not, Least etc (see 3 below)

1

In microbial keratitis, which of the following is most likely to be true?

- > a. Perforation is common in *Pseudomonas* keratitis.
- b. Bacterial and fungal keratitis are clinically distinct.
- c. Fungal keratitis is more common than bacterial keratitis in temperate climates.
- d. *Acanthamoeba* keratitis typically occurs in people who swim in public swimming baths.

2.

A 9-year-old child is admitted for surgery for a penetrating eye injury. His maternal grandmother died under anaesthesia 20 years previously; his mother has never had an anaesthetic. How would an anaesthetist (anaesthesiologist) best advise the family?

- a. To proceed with the normal anaesthetic immediately avoiding the use of Suxamethonium (succinylcholine, Scoline).
- b. To have a muscle biopsy under local anaesthetic.
- > c. To proceed, avoiding Halothane and having Dantrolene (Dantrolen, Dantrium) available.
- d. To send blood for urgent mutation analysis.

For the following questions, you have to make up your own mind

Read carefully,
mark True or False

look up the question on the web or in a book!

3. Difficult question?



Figure 4

In Figure 3 (Above), the 18 year old patient with Neurofibromatosis type1 (NF1) has been blind in the left eye for 3 years and the right eye has a temporal hemianopia with a visual

acuity of Log MAR 0.1 (6/6, 20/20, 1.0). Which of these statements is most likely to be correct about the diagnosis?

- a. There is a bilateral optic nerve glioma.
- b. There is a right optic nerve glioma and a left optic nerve meningioma.
- c. There is a glioma involving the optic tract, chiasm and left optic nerve.
- d. The patient has had radiotherapy for a chiasmal glioma

NB the word most in the question implies that although there may be more than one option that may be correct, only one is clearly correct. A value judgement is required.

4.
A 'NEGATIVE' QUESTION
During a difficult cataract operation, the posterior capsule ruptures and the cataract completely dislocates into the posterior vitreous. Which of the following would be the **LEAST** safe next action?

- a. Sulcus fixation of an intraocular lens, if the anterior capsule is intact.
- b. Retrieval of the dislocated lens.
- c. Suturing of the corneal wound.
- d. Anterior vitrectomy.

5.
Community Medicine & Public Health.
Concerning **VISION 2020: The Right to Sight**. Which of the following statements is most Correct?

- a. If successful, VISION 2020 will prevent 500 million people becoming blind.
- b. The 5 major causes of avoidable blindness include Refractive Error.
- c. Men face a greater risk of vision loss than women.
- d. World Sight Day is observed on the second Thursday of March each year.

6.
Which of the following tumours is **LEAST** likely to cause cellular infiltration of the vitreous?

- a. Leukaemia.
- b. Retinoblastoma.
- c. Large cell lymphoma.
- d. Choroidal haemangioma.

7.
A patient who cannot voluntarily look upwards but has an intact Bell's phenomenon (an upward and movement of the eye when an attempt is made to close the eyes) most likely has a lesion that is located in which part of the oculomotor system?

- a. Internuclear.
- b. Intranuclear.
- c. Supranuclear.
- d. Infranuclear.

8.
Which of the following are basement membranes?

- a. Descemet's membrane.
- b. Lens capsule.
- c. Internal limiting membrane.
- d. Bowman's layer.

9.

A predominantly papillary conjunctival reaction is ABSENT in which of the following conditions?

- a. Viral conjunctivitis.
- b. Allergic conjunctivitis.
- c. Floppy eyelid syndrome.
- d. Superior limbic conjunctivitis.

10.

Which of the following stains is best able to demonstrate the intraepithelial (intranuclear) inclusion bodies that can be found in corneal scrapings from cases of herpes simplex dendritic keratitis?

- a. Gram stain.
- b. Wright stain.
- c. Giemsa stain.
- d. Papanicolaou stain.

11.

Stage 3 retinopathy of prematurity is defined as which of the following?

- a. A ridge separating vascularized and avascular retina.
- b. Extraretinal fibrovascular proliferation.
- c. Localized retinal detachment.
- d. Dilatation and tortuosity of retinal vessels.

12.

A compensatory head tilt toward the right shoulder is typical in which of the following conditions?

- a. Left superior oblique paresis.
- b. Right superior oblique paresis.
- c. Left Duane's syndrome.
- d. Right Brown's syndrome .

13.

Regarding entropion, which of the following is TRUE?

- a. Upper lid entropion is usually due to involutional changes.
- b. Upper lid entropion results in dystichiasis.
- c. Congenital entropion causes orbicularis muscle hypertrophy.
- d. It occurs in facial (Seventh, VII) nerve palsy.

14.

Corneal topographic abnormalities are more common and severe in patients who wear which of the following optical corrections?

- a. Rigid contact lenses.
- b. Daily-wear soft contact lenses.

- c. Extended-wear soft contact lenses.
- d. Aphakic soft contact lenses.

15.

The preferred initial therapy of a patient with necrotizing scleritis is which of the following?

- a. Oral immunosuppressive therapy.
- b. Oral nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory medications.
- c. Oral corticosteroids.
- d. Topical corticosteroids.