Q: What is the ‘classic triad’ for autism spectrum disorder?

A: Impaired social interaction, impaired imagination associated with communication, restricted interests and activities.

Q: What is the antidote for benzodiazepine overdose?

A: Flumazenil

Q: What are first and second line rapid tranquilisation in psychotic and non-psychotic patients?

A: Non-psychotic: oral lorazepam 1-2mg, 2nd line is IM.

Psychotic: same as above + oral chlorpromazine 50-100mg, 2nd IM olanzapine. (3rd: Haloperidol but only in exceptional circumstances.)

Q: What is the safest anti-psychotic in patients with liver disease?

A: Haloperidol

Q: Which antidepressant is least teratogenic?

A: Fluoxetine

Q: What are the features of neuroleptic malignant syndrome?

A: Fever, muscular rigidity, autonomic dysfunction and altered consciousness.

Q: What is the ‘classic triad’ of symptoms in patients suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder?

A: Intrusive flashbacks, avoidance, hyperarousal

Q: Name 2 drugs used to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

A: methylphenidate, dexamphetamine, atomoxetine

Q: Name the three medications used in substitute prescribing for opiate withdrawl.

A: methadone, buprenorphine, dihydrocodiene

Q: A patient with a history of suicidal depression is admitted with dilated pupils, divergent strabismus, hypertonia and sinus tachycardia. What has she overdosed on?

A: Tricylic anti-depressants.

Q: Name 5 reversible causes of dementia.

A: B vitamin deficiency (1, 9 and 12), normal pressure hydrocephalus, Parkinson’s, subdural haematoma, meningioma, pseudodementia (depression).

Q: What is the triad of presenting symptoms in normal pressure hydrocephalus?

A: dementia, urinary incontinence, gait ataxia

Q: What are the 3 most common types of dementia?

A: Alzheimer’s, vascular and Lewy body

Q: Which dementia has Parkinsonism and short term memory conservation as its core features?

A: Lewy body

Q: Name three ‘positive’ symptoms of schizophrenia.

A: delusions, hallucinations, thought disorder, motor signs,

Q: What are the hallmark protein deposits in Alzheimer’s disease?

A: Beta amyloid and tau protein neurofibrillary tangles.

Q: A young man complains that his repetitive handwashing rituals mean that it takes him hours to get to work. What is the most likely diagnosis and best treatment?

A: Obsessive compulsive disorder. Best treated with selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRI antidepressants) and cognitive behavioural therapy.

Q: A woman believe she can feel her blood pressure rising as it is controlled by satellites orbiting above her house. What type of delusion is this?

A: Somatic passitivity.

Q: Do antipsychotics increase or decrease prolactin levels?

A: Increase.

Q: What drug can be prescribed to reduce the parkinsonian side effects of antipsychotic medication?

A: procyclidine

Q: What are Lilliputian hallucinations characteristic of?

A: Delirium tremens

Q: What are the two core features of depressive illness?

A: Anhedonia and depressed mood.

Q: A man with depression erroneously believes his car has been impounded due to his reckless driving and his mortgage has been foreclosed. What type of delusion is this?

A: Nihilistic

Q: A 56 year old man has been severely depressed despite adequate anti-depressant treatment. He is borderline psychotic, suicidal and refusing to eat. What is the most appropriate treatment?

A: Electroconvulsive therapy.

Q: A young mother visits her GP with feelings of worthlessness and uncontrollable crying. What is the most appropriate treatment?

A: Cognitive behavioural therapy

Q: What are the characteristics of delusion?

A: A fixed idea held with subjective certainty; no external proof required. Not part of cultural background.

Q: A man attacked his wife because he thought that she had been replaced by an alien impersonating her. What delusion is this?

A: the Capgras delusion

Q: Name 4 biological symptoms of depressive illness.

A: sleep disturbance, anorexia, loss of libido, anergia, poor concentration, weight change

Q: What is Section 3 of the Mental Health Act?

A: Admission for treatment (6 months)

Q: What is the 1st line treatment in acute mania?

A: Lithium

Q: What is the commonest side effect of carbamazepine?

A: hyponatraemia.

Q: Name 6 risk factors for completed suicide.

A: Male, 65<, single, living alone, unemployed, previous history of attempts, substance dependence, recent inpatient stay in a psych ward, recent bereavement.

Q: Name three selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors used in the treatment of depression

A: fluoxetine, sertraline, paroxetine, citalopram, fluvoxamine,

Q: What class of antidepressants are most effective in depressive episodes of bipolar affective disorder?

A: SSRIs

Q: Name 3 features of mania.

A: euphoria, increased energy, increased self-esteem, distractibility, pressure of speech, disruption of normal functioning, irresponsibility,

Q: What is the clinical triad seen with Wernicke’s encephalopathy?

A: opthalmoplegia, ataxia, confusion

Q: Name two groups of pharmaceuticals which are used in the management of Alzheimer’s disease.

A: Cholinesterase inhibitors (such as donepezil and rivastigmine) and NMDA antagonists (mematine)