

## FOR SHORT ANSWERS

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## FOR LONG ANSWERS

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# ENDGAMES

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## STATISTICAL QUESTION

### Study design

A randomised double blind trial compared the effects and tolerability of omeprazole and cisapride for the management of heartburn. Which one or more of the following statements best describes the rationale for conducting this trial using the double blind technique?

- Elimination of allocation bias
- Minimisation of confounding between treatment groups
- Minimisation of response bias
- Minimisation of assessment bias

Submitted by Philip Sedgwick

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## ON EXAMINATION QUIZ

### Old age psychiatry

The answer to this question and more questions on this topic are available from [www.onexamination.com/endgames](http://www.onexamination.com/endgames) until midnight on Wednesday.

This week's quiz is on old age psychiatry and is taken from the OnExamination revision questions for paper 3 of the MRCPsych exam. A 76 year old retired woman living in a residential home complains of seeing poltergeists. Her visual acuity is bilaterally reduced and slit lamp examination of her eyes shows bilateral lenticular opacities. There is no evidence of secondary gain in relation to her complaints.

What is the most likely diagnosis?

- Anton syndrome
- Charles Bonnet syndrome
- Loss of colour vision
- Malingering
- Pathological lying



## PICTURE QUIZ

### A painful rash

A 54 year old man presented with a flare of Crohn's disease. He had developed a painful red rash on his face, neck, and shoulders one week prior to this flare. Clinical examination showed multiple tender erythematous plaques with superadded pustules and surrounding erythema. Laboratory investigations showed a white cell count of  $15 \times 10^9/l$ —essentially neutrophilia—and a C reactive protein concentration of 106 mg/l. Blood tests were otherwise unremarkable. The patient is shown 10 days after onset of the rash, when the lesions were beginning to resolve.

- What is the diagnosis?
- What factors is this condition associated with?
- What is the treatment?

Submitted by Tanya M Monaghan, James D Thomas, and William Goddard

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## PICTURE QUIZ

### Cervical radiography



A 46 year old white man presented to the accident and emergency department following a traffic accident. He was sitting in the passenger seat of the car and was thrown out of the vehicle on impact. The car was travelling at 60 mph. On arrival he was conscious and initial assessment revealed only superficial lacerations on his torso and limbs. Spinal assessment showed no para-spinal muscle spasm and no localised bony or soft tissue tenderness. Standard radiographs of the pelvis, chest, and abdomen revealed no injury. His cervical radiograph, however, caught the attention of the attending trauma team. No focal neurological deficit was present in the patient.

- What is the abnormality shown in the radiograph?
- What further investigations are warranted?
- When would surgery be considered?

Submitted by M Bernardotto and M Butt

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