FOR SHORT ANSWERS
See p 1422
FOR LONG ANSWERS
Use advanced search at bmj.com and enter question details

ENDGAMES

We welcome contributions that would help doctors with postgraduate examinations
See resources.bmj.com/bmj/authors/types-of-article#endgames

CASE REPORT

The management of accidental hypothermia

A 24 year old surfer presented to the emergency department unconscious. Lifeguards had spotted him drifting out to sea on his surfboard. Upon return to the beach he was confused, unable to walk in a straight line, and shivering violently. He subsequently collapsed and paramedics were called. On arrival at the emergency department, the patient's Glasgow coma score was 3, and he appeared cyanotic with a regular pattern of breathing at a rate of eight breaths/minute. His pulse was irregular at 36 beats/minute and his blood pressure was unrecordable. His rectal temperature was 27.8°C. As his airway was suctioned in preparation for orotracheal intubation, the patient's cardiac rhythm changed to ventricular fibrillation. After a pulse check and precordial thump, defibrillation was performed at 150 joules and basic life support was commenced. Two further shocks were given at appropriate intervals and 1 mg of intravenous adrenaline (epinephrine) was administered.

1 What is the next resuscitation step?
2 How should this patient's low temperature be managed?
3 At what point should resuscitation be stopped if unsuccessful?

Submitted by W G Headdon, P M Wilson, and Harry R Dalton
Cite this as: *BMJ* 2009;338:b2085

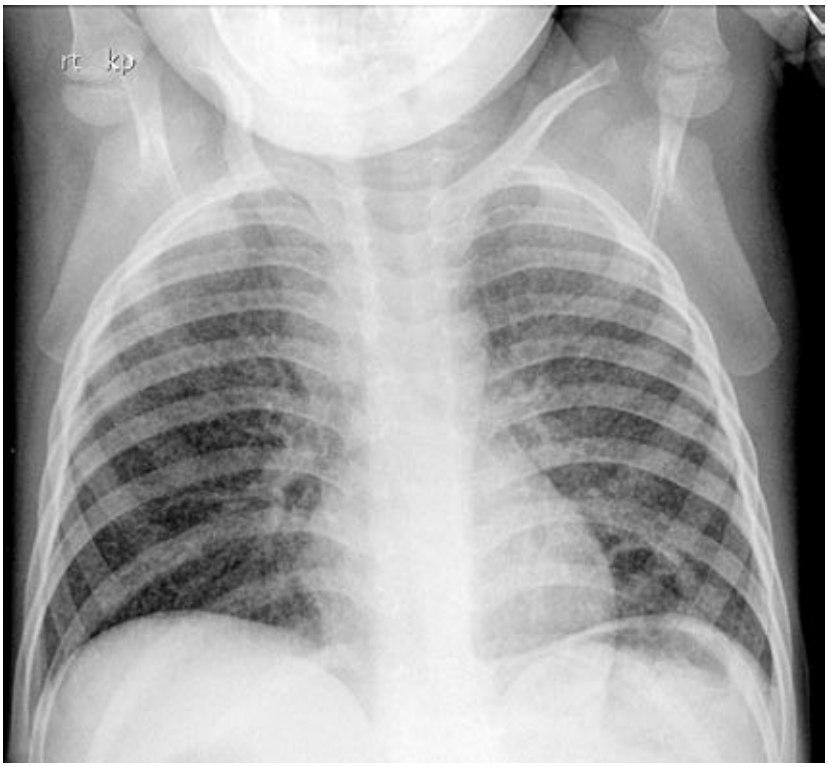
STATISTICAL QUESTION

Sampling distributions

Researchers obtained birth weights for 4300 men born between 1973 and 1975. The mean birth weight was 3471 g and the standard deviation was 540 g. The 95% confidence interval for the mean was 3455 g to 3487 g.
Which of the following statements best describes the information given by the 95% confidence interval?

a) 95% of men in the sample had a birth weight between 3455 and 3487 g
b) There was a probability of 0.95 that the sample mean birth weight would fall between 3455 to 3487 g
c) There is a probability of 0.95 that the 95% confidence interval will contain the population mean birth weight for men born between 1973 and 1975
d) 95% of men in the population born between 1973 and 1975 had a birth weight between 3455 and 3487 g

Submitted by John Fletcher
Cite this as: *BMJ* 2009;338:b1381



PICTURE QUIZ

A 2 year old girl with fever, cough, and tachypnoea

A 2 year old girl presented to the accident and emergency department with high grade fever (temperature 39.2°C), cough, tachypnoea (respiratory rate 45 breaths/min), and lethargy. She had been unwell for six weeks with general malaise and intermittent fever. She had also been anorectic for three weeks and had lost about 7% of her body weight. She was born in Australia to parents from the South Pacific Islands. Her routine immunisations were up to date and her past medical history was unremarkable. The patient underwent chest radiography.

1 Which two major abnormalities can be seen on her chest radiograph?
2 What is the most likely diagnosis?
3 Which three additional investigations are most useful to confirm the diagnosis?

Submitted by Marc Tebruegge, Nicole Ritz, Tom Connell, and Nigel Curtis
Cite this as: *BMJ* 2009;338:b1210

ON EXAMINATION QUIZ

Ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome

The answer to this question and more questions on this topic are available from www.onexamination.com/endgames until midnight on Wednesday.
This week's quiz is on ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome and is taken from the OnExamination revision questions for the MRCOG Part 2 examination.

Which of the following features, if any, define severe ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome?

A Blood pressure of 118/78 mm Hg
B Chest radiogram showing a small left pleural effusion
C Ovarian diameter of 4.5 cm
D Plasma sodium concentration of 125 mmol/l
E Urea concentration of 12.1 mmol/l