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**QUESTION 1**

A patient arrives in the emergency department after having been stabbed. He has sustained a penetrating wound in the left fourth intercostal space immediately lateral to the sternal border. Which of the following thoracic structures is most likely to have been injured?

- A. Left atrium
- B. Left ventricle
- C. Right atrium
- D. Right ventricle
- E. Upper lobe of the left lung

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

The right ventricle forms most of the anterior wall of the heart and extends from approximately the right border of the sternum to approximately 2 inches to the left of the sternum at the level of the fourth intercostal space. The left atrium forms the posterior wall of the heart. The only portion of the left atrium seen on the anterior surface of the heart is the left auricular appendage, which is at the level of the second intercostal space on the left. The left ventricle forms most of the left border of the heart and the diaphragmatic surface of the heart. It forms the anterior wall of the heart in a region from approximately 2-3 inches from the left border of the sternum from the third to the fifth intercostal space. The right atrium forms the right border of the heart. Its anterior surface is on the right side of the sternum from approximately the third rib to the sixth rib. The left lung is displaced away from the sternum on the left side by the presence of the heart.

QUESTION 2

A 55-year-old hypertensive man develops sudden onset of excruciating pain beginning in the anterior chest, and then radiating to the back. Over the next 2 hours, the pain moves downward toward the abdomen. Which of the following is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Aortic dissection
- B. Syphilitic aneurysm
- C. Aortic valve stenosis
- D. Atherosclerotic aneurysm
- E. Myocardial infarction

Correct Answer: A

Explanation:

This patient has an aortic dissection (formerly called dissecting aneurysm), a potentially fatal condition that is too often confused clinically with myocardial infarction. The most important clinical clue is that the pain shifts with time. Noninvasive techniques, such as transesophageal echocardiography, CT, and MRI, are increasingly useful in making this diagnosis. Aortic valve stenosis would not be expected to produce severe chest pain of acute onset. This patient's



clinical history does not suggest either an atherosclerotic or a syphilitic aneurysm. Even if he had one of either of these types of aneurysms and it had begun to rupture, the distinctive feature of severe pain moving downward would probably not be present. Myocardial infarction is the major diagnosis most often confused with this patient's condition. The movement of the pain is the major clinical tip-off suggesting that this is not the correct answer.

QUESTION 3

Which of the following is not an indicator of a hypoglycemic condition?

- A. Fatigue
- B. Poor appetite
- C. Tachycardia
- D. Confusion

Correct Answer: B

QUESTION 4

A 17-year-old girl is brought to the physician by her mother because she has not had a menstrual period for 6 months. The patient is unconcerned about the lack of menses. Menarche occurred at the age of 12 years, and menses had occurred at regular 28-day intervals until they became irregular 1 year ago. She is a member of her high school gymnastics team. She appears emaciated. She is 163 cm (5 ft 4 in) tall and weighs 40 kg (88 lb); BMI is 15 kg/m². Her pulse is 54/min, and blood pressure is 80/50 mmHg. Which of the following is the most likely cause of this patient's amenorrhea?

- A. Hyperthyroidism
- B. Hypogonadotropic hypogonadism
- C. Hypothyroidism
- D. Polycystic ovarian syndrome
- E. Prolactinoma

Correct Answer: B

QUESTION 5

Which of the following is not considered a monoamine?

- A. Epinephrine
- B. Norepinephrine



C. Dopamine

D. Adenosine

Correct Answer: D

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