CME Activities–Exams 1 and 2

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Instructions:
Category 1 credit can be earned by reading the relevant articles and taking these CME examinations online at http://www.cghjournal.org/content/cme. Answers can be obtained online after completing the exam(s).

Objectives:
See article for specific learning objective.
Exam 1: Acute Upper Gastrointestinal Hemorrhage in an Elderly Woman Taking Aspirin and Clopidogrel

Question 1:
Which of the following statements is true regarding dual antiplatelet therapy (DAT) with aspirin and clopidogrel in primary and secondary management of cardiovascular diseases?

- a. DAT decreases mortality associated with acute coronary syndrome (unstable angina and myocardial infarction)
- b. DAT is indicated following percutaneous coronary intervention only if a stent has been placed
- c. DAT does not reduce the risk of stent thrombosis
- d. The risk of stent occlusion appears to be lowest during the first year after placement

Question 2:
Which of the following statements is true regarding the risk of gastrointestinal injury and bleeding from the drugs used for DAT?

- a. Endoscopy of the upper gastrointestinal tract within 12 weeks of starting aspirin therapy reveals erosive disease in less than 20% of patients
- b. Low-dose aspirin (less than 166 mg/day) does not increase the risk for upper gastrointestinal hemorrhage
- c. DAT with aspirin and clopidogrel increases the incidence of gastrointestinal hemorrhage compared to either drug alone
- d. The risk of gastrointestinal hemorrhage within 30 days of starting DAT in patients with a prior history of gastrointestinal hemorrhage exceeds 25%

Question 3:
Which of the following statements is true regarding the outcome and management of acute gastrointestinal hemorrhage in patients receiving DAT for cardiovascular diseases?

- a. Patients with acute coronary syndrome and acute blood loss from gastrointestinal hemorrhage have in-hospital mortality increased 4- to 7-fold compared to those without gastrointestinal hemorrhage
- b. Volume replacement with blood products should be limited because of the risk of causing cardiac failure
- c. DAT should be continued in all patients, irrespective of the risk of ongoing or recurrent gastrointestinal hemorrhage
- d. Use of a proton pump inhibitor is contraindicated for preventing recurrent gastrointestinal hemorrhage in patients who require continued use of antiplatelet drugs

Question 4:
Which of the following statements is true regarding upper gastrointestinal endoscopy in patients receiving antiplatelet therapy and in the setting of acute coronary syndrome?

- a. Biopsy should not be done during diagnostic endoscopy in patients taking antiplatelet drugs because of significant increase in bleeding complications
- b. Consensus expert opinion by the American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy and British Society of Gastroenterology suggests that endoscopic hemostasis is not effective in patients taking antiplatelet drugs
- c. The overall rate of complications for upper gastrointestinal endoscopy within 30 days of acute coronary syndrome exceeds 20%
- d. The mortality rate for upper gastrointestinal endoscopy within 30 days of acute coronary syndrome is 1%-2%

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