

One year on: Test your knowledge from the previous year

- 1. Cystatin C expression in AAA wall or plasma from AAA patients was found reduced. Why was plasma cystatin B increased in AAA patients?**
 - A. The expression regulation of cystatin C and cystatin B uses different transcription machineries.
 - B. Cystatin B targets different cathepsins from those of cystatin C.
 - C. Cystatin C and cystatin B are located at different subcellular compartments.
 - D. Cystatin C and cystatin B may locate at different subcellular compartments and exert different affinities to cathepsins. Their action mechanisms to AAA development may be different, although these hypotheses have not been tested.
 - E. Cystatin C and cystatin B have different preferences in targeting intracellular and extracellular cathepsins.
- 2. Direct angiosomal revascularisation is associated with significantly improved wound healing and limb salvage outcomes compared to indirect revascularization. What is the GRADE (Grading of Recommendations Assessment, Development and Evaluation) level of evidence for both these outcomes?**
 - A. High
 - B. Moderate
 - C. Low
 - D. Very low
 - E. Non-calculable
- 3. Which statement describing matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs) is incorrect?**
 - A. They are regulators of the inflammatory process.
 - B. They are important in the remodelling of connective tissue.
 - C. They require zinc to function effectively.
 - D. They reduce in response to limb elevation in venous patients.
 - E. They are markers of pre-programmed cell death.
- 4. Which one of the following variables was NOT identified as an independent predictor of early all-cause mortality following branched and fenestrated aortic repair?**
 - A. Age ³ 80
 - B. ASA (class ³ 4)
 - C. Rupture
 - D. Any thoraco-abdominal aneurysm
 - E. Female gender
- 5. Referrals for varicose veins from primary to secondary care increased by how much during the study period in response to the NICE Guidance CG 168?**
 - A. 5%
 - B. 10%
 - C. 15%
 - D. 20%
 - E. 25%
- 6. According to current clinical practice guidelines, when should carotid revascularization be performed in symptomatic patients with a degree of stenosis of between 50 and 99%?**
 - A. within 20 days of symptom onset.
 - B. within 30 days of symptom onset.
 - C. within 60 days of symptom onset.
 - D. within 90 days of symptom onset.
 - E. as soon as possible, preferably within 14 days of symptom onset

- 7. Questions 1. What is considered to be the most indicative radiographic sign of iliac vein compression syndrome according to the vascular specialists?**
- Compression of the iliac vein of >50% on phlebography
 - Compression of the iliac vein of >50% on IVUS
 - Collateralization
 - Pancaking of the common iliac vein
 - Translucency of the common iliac vein
- 8. The incidence of infection following open supra-aortic trunk reconstruction is?**
- 0.1%
 - 2%
 - 4%
 - 10%
 - 0.25–0.5%
- 9. A 77-year old man with a history of left calf claudication presents with a full length occlusion of his superficial femoral and popliteal artery. His crural vessels are fully patent. Based upon his Bollinger score, his five-year mortality risk is approximately?**
- 10%
 - 25%
 - 35%
 - 45%
 - 55%
- 10. What is the proportion of patients who undergo treatment for type II endoleak, who subsequently require one or more further re-interventions?**
- 0–5%
 - 6–10%
 - 11–15%
 - 16–20%
- 11. Which of the following statements is incorrect when managing isolated mesenteric artery dissection IMAD according to the European Society of Vascular Surgery (ESVS) guidelines in 2017?**
- Follow-up imaging was recommended to detect aneurysm formation, occlusion, or stenosis
 - Symptomatic patients must be considered for endovascular revascularization
 - Symptomatic patients not responding to medical management and with a suspicion of bowel ischaemia should be considered for endovascular revascularization
 - Treatment of patients with IMAD is aimed at prevention of intestinal ischaemia or rupture of the artery
 - Patients with favourable remodelling and unchanged anatomy over time may be discharged from a surveillance

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Answers from previous issue (November 2019):

1E, 2C, 3B, 4B, 5E, 6A, 7B, 8B, 9B, 10A