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QUESTION 1

Which of the following arteries supplies Broca's area?

- A. ACA
- B. MCA
- C. PCA
- D. Lateral striate

Correct Answer: B

QUESTION 2

The primary effect of cocaine on the nervous system is that cocaine blocks the re-uptake of _____.

- A. Monoamines
- B. Trans amines
- C. Catecholamine
- D. Monoamine oxidase

Correct Answer: A

QUESTION 3

A 50-year-old male with AIDS develops a fever, headache and stiff neck. A sample of his cerebrospinal fluid reveals the presence of lymphocytes, glucose levels of 35 mg/dL and protein levels of 75 mg/dL. The test which would most likely confirm this patient's diagnosis is the:

- A. India ink test
- B. latex particle agglutination test
- C. molecular probe test
- D. polymerase chain reaction test
- E. Tzanck smear

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

This patient with AIDS most likely has meningitis caused by *Cryptococcus neoformans*, which is a heavily encapsulated yeast found in pigeon droppings and acquired through inhalation. The fungi can be highlighted with India ink and mucicarmine but latex particle agglutination testing is more specific. It detects the polysaccharide capsular antigens shed into the CSF. Cryptococcal meningitis is an opportunistic infection and treatment is with amphotericin B and flucytosine followed by fluconazole.

QUESTION 4

A previously healthy 40-year-old man is brought to the emergency department because of constant substernal chest pain for 12 hours that is exacerbated by coughing and inspiration. The pain is relieved with sitting up and leaning forward. There is no family history of heart disease. His temperature is 38°C (100.4°F), pulse is 120/min, and blood pressure is 110/60 mmHg. The lungs are clear to auscultation. Cardiac examination shows distant heart sounds. An ECG shows diffuse ST-segment elevation in all leads. An x-ray of the chest shows normal findings. The most likely cause of his condition is injury to which of the following tissues?

- A. Aortic intima
- B. Esophageal sphincter
- C. Myocardium
- D. Pericardium
- E. Pleura

Correct Answer: D

QUESTION 5

A 40-year-old male comes to his physician due to progressive muscle weakness and paralysis. Over the next few years, his condition progresses to complete paralysis of all voluntary muscles and he eventually dies of respiratory failure. Microscopic examination of tissue obtained at autopsy shows that both upper and lower motor neurons are degenerated. Of the listed options, the location which would likely reveal the most marked neuronal loss is the

- A. caudate nucleus
- B. cerebellum
- C. globus pallidus
- D. spinal cord
- E. substantia nigra

Correct Answer: D

Explanation:

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) commonly known as Lou Gehrig disease is a devastating disease characterized by the degeneration of both upper and lower motor neurons. Depending on the stage of the disease, patients may primarily experience either upper motor symptoms (hyperreflexia, spasticity, Babinski reflex) or lower motor symptoms

(weakness, muscular atrophy, fasciculations) usually both. Upper motor neurons are located in the motor area of the cerebral cortex and lower motor neurons are located in the anterior horn of the spinal cord. ALS may be caused by a defect in superoxidase dismutase

1. There is no effective therapy although riluzole may be used to manage symptoms.

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