

## FOR SHORT ANSWERS

See p 693

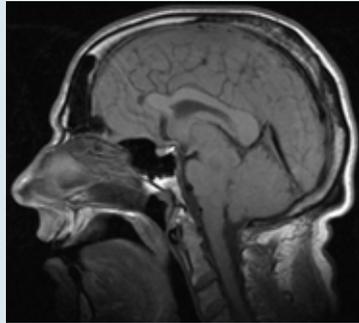
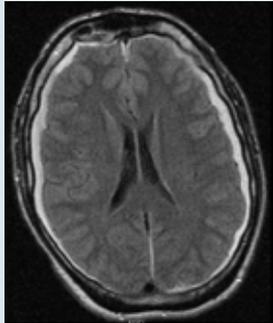
## FOR LONG ANSWERS

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# ENDGAMES

We welcome contributions that would help doctors with postgraduate examinations

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## PICTURE QUIZ

### Postural headache

Fig 1 T2 weighted magnetic resonance imaging of the brain: axial view

Fig 2 T2 weighted magnetic resonance imaging of the brain: sagittal view

Fig 3 T2 weighted magnetic resonance imaging of the lumbosacral spine: sagittal view

A 50 year old man, with known Marfan's syndrome, was admitted with a one week history of severe headaches over the top of his skull, neck pain, and daily vomiting. His symptoms were greatly aggravated by standing, but they disappeared when he lay flat. He was systemically well and had no history of trauma. He had undergone an aortic root and metallic valve replacement 13 months previously and was on lifelong warfarin.

On examination he had morphological features consistent with Marfan's syndrome, including tall stature, pectus carinatum, arachnodactyly, joint hypermobility, and high arch palate. He did not have a fever. He had no neurological deficit, photophobia, or signs of meningism. His blood investigations were unremarkable except for an international normalised ratio of 3.8. Magnetic resonance imaging of the brain and lumbosacral spine was performed (figs 1-3).

- 1 What do the magnetic resonance imaging scans show?
- 2 What is the diagnosis?
- 3 How would you treat this condition?

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## ON EXAMINATION QUIZ

### Hepatobiliary system

The answer to this question, and more questions on this topic, are available from [www.onexamination.com/endgames](http://www.onexamination.com/endgames) until midnight on Wednesday.

This week's quiz is on the hepatobiliary system and is taken from the MRCP Parts 1 and 2.

A 75 year old retired farmer from mid-Wales had mildly deranged liver function tests during a routine health check-up. He had an ultrasound scan, which showed multiple cystic lesions in the right lobe of the liver that ranged in size from 1 cm to 8 cm in diameter. The larger cysts had a calcified appearance.

A melanoma had been removed from his back 20 years ago, and multiple basal cell carcinomas had been removed from his head, face, and arms in recent years.

#### What investigation should be done next?

- Computed tomography scan
- Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP)
- Hydatid serology
- Laparoscopy
- Ultrasound guided aspiration

## STATISTICAL QUESTIONS

### Screening

When thinking about performing a screening test on an asymptomatic patient to detect a disease, which of the following criteria should ideally be fulfilled?

- a) The test specificity should be high
- b) The disease should be rare
- c) An effective treatment should be available
- d) Everyone should receive the screening test and the "gold standard" diagnosis
- e) The natural course of the disease should be well described

Submitted by John Fletcher

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### Crossover trials

Which of the following statements apply to crossover clinical trials?

- a) They are not subject to confounding by age, sex, or most personal characteristics
- b) Randomisation is not possible
- c) They are useful in studies using mortality as the endpoint
- d) They need fewer people than parallel group trials

Submitted by John Fletcher

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