University of New Mexico

Physician Assistant Program

Learning Issue Example

NOTES ON AN INDIVIDUAL PATIENT

Date: 11/4/13 Patient Initials: AS Age: 27 Sex: F

Dx: Active exacerbation of SLE with possible pericarditis

Clinical skills, complete H & P, procedures: _____

S: Please see SOAP note

O:

A:

P:

LEARNING ISSUES

Biological: What are the physical/biological manifestations of an acute exacerbation of systemic lupus erythematous?

Behavioral:

Population: What population is affected by lupus (age, gender, etc. – other demographics)?

Clinical Skills: What diagnostic evaluations are performed on a patient suffering an acute exacerbation of SLE?

Biological Learning Issue

List references, sources: CMDT 2003, www.uptodate.com

Briefly discuss the learning issue: SLE can present with a number of findings (2° to Ag-Ab mediated destruction of host cells and trapping of complexes in the vasculature). They include: rash (molar discord/butterfly), arthritis, nephrotic (nephortic syndrome, seizures, pscyhosis, hemolytic anemia, thrombocytopenia, pericarditis, pleuritis, cardiac arrhythmia, stomatitis/ulcerations, conjunctivitis, photophobia, and systemic features (fever, anorexia/weight loss, fatigue).

~~Behavioral~~ Clinical Skills Learning Issue

List references, sources: CMDT 2003, www.uptodate.com

Briefly discuss the learning issue: Urinalysis = evaluates hematuria/proteinuria associated with glomerulonephropathy.

Chest x-ray = evaluation for cardiomegally (myocarditis/pericarditis) and pleuritis (blunted costo-phrenic).

CBC = evaluation for hemolytic anemia, thrombocytopenia.

Serum complement = decreased complement is associated with active SLE.

Renal function tests = evaluation for elevated BUN/Creatinine associated with glomerulonephopathy.

Population Learning Issue

List references, sources: CMDT: 2003, www.uptodate.com

Briefly discuss the learning issue: SLE predominates in females (85%) and typically develops after menarche. Higher rates of SLE are found in black women. The disease also shows familial occurrence.