

Final revision points re final exam

Dear Everyone,

You will all have received your final results now.

I just wanted to raise a few themes that need revising following the exam.

1. Croup - aim to keep the child calm and treat with oral or nebulised treatment where possible. Try to avoid inserting an IV line as this can distress the child and worsen the stridor. There was some confusion between the treatment of croup and the treatment of anaphylaxis.
2. Anaphylaxis - please revise the anaphylaxis algorithm and ensure you give IM adrenaline.
3. Fluid prescriptions - please revise fluid calculations and prescriptions. Maintenance fluid needs to have 5% dextrose.
4. Drug prescriptions - there were drug prescribing errors and you need to ensure you take time to prescribe accurately. Some of you did not check the drug reference guide you were provided with. In clinical practice there is no need to ever prescribe from memory - always check the correct dose. Check if the guidance specifies the total dose or if you need to calculate with the weight i.e. mg or mg/kg. For example, Salbutamol nebuliser 2.5mg (this does not need to be multiplied by the weight as some people did in the exam).
5. Blood transfusion - check the indications for blood transfusion. In clinical practice you need to be clear of the indication to transfuse. Some transfusions were given in the exam that were not indicated.
6. Remember to give IV Ceftriaxone to cover for meningitis even if cerebral malaria is initially suspected.
7. Child Protection - remember to document a detailed examination of all injuries/skin marks on a body map

Clinical practice is not an exam. You can always check prescribing guidelines, treatment guidelines and discuss with colleagues for help to ensure you give the correct treatment

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,

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