

ABMM New Practice Questions | Valid ABMM Exam Duration

Sample Questions

American Board of Medical Microbiology

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SAMPLE QUESTIONS

The sample questions included in this examination guide are actual questions from previous examinations. They have been removed from the question pool. Do not judge the content as indicative of content in current questions, but use these sample questions as templates for the format.

1. Five cases of prosthetic valve endocarditis caused by *Staphylococcus epidermidis* are observed in one hospital. Of the following available methods, which is BEST for determining whether all five isolates were derived from a single source?

A. Serotyping
B. Restriction fragment length polymorphism analysis
C. Antimicrobial susceptibility testing
D. Bacteriophage typing

Question tests Bacteriology: Infection Control.

2. Which of the following organisms is the most common cause of septicemia in patients with sickle cell disease?

A. *Salmonella enteritidis*
B. *Streptococcus pneumoniae*
C. *Streptococcus agalactiae*
D. *Shigella sonnei*

Question tests Bacteriology: Infectious Disease and Pathogenesis.

3. A 20-year-old man was generally healthy until his impacted wisdom tooth was removed by an oral surgeon. The area where the tooth had been was sore and there were eruptions through the skin beneath the area of the jaw where the tooth had been.

Which of the following is the most probable etiologic agent of this patient's condition?

A. *Actinomyces israelii*
B. *Histoplasma capsulatum*
C. *Nocardia asteroides*
D. *Actinomyces bovis*

Question tests Bacteriology: Infectious Disease and Pathogenesis.

4. The highly infectious asexual conidia of *Coccidioides immitis* are called which of the following?

A. Arthroconidia
B. Blastospores
C. Chlamydospores
D. Sporangiospores

Question tests Mycology: Public Health.

5. Which of the following specimens is used to diagnose infections with *Naegleria fowleri*?

A. Cerebrospinal fluid
B. Corneal scraping
C. Blood
D. Urine

Question tests Parasitology: Diagnostic Systems and Interpretation of Laboratory Data.

6. An individual who has received all three doses of hepatitis B vaccine and who has never had hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection

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of issues.

American Society of Microbiology ABMM Sample Questions (Q137-Q142):

NEW QUESTION # 137

According to the current CDC-recommended laboratory algorithm for diagnosing HIV infection in adults and children aged >18 months, what is the recommended initial screening test?

- A. HIV RNA nucleic acid test (NAT)
- B. HIV-1 p24 antigen assay only
- C. HIV-1/HIV-2 antibody differentiation immunoassay
- D. HIV-1/HIV-2 antigen/antibody combination immunoassay

Answer: D

NEW QUESTION # 138

A clinical microbiology laboratory is investigating a cluster of bloodstream infections caused by *Staphylococcus aureus*. To differentiate between community-associated (CA-MRSA) and healthcare-associated (HA-MRSA) strains, they may look for the presence of:

- A. The *mecA* gene, which is common to both CA-MRSA and HA-MRSA.
- B. Pantón-Valentine leukocidin (PVL) toxin genes, which are exclusively found in HA-MRSA.
- C. Specific staphylococcal cassette chromosome *mec* (SCC*mec*) types, such as SCC*mec* IV or V in CA-MRSA.
- D. Resistance to non-beta-lactam antibiotics, which is more common in CA-MRSA.

Answer: C

NEW QUESTION # 139

A microbiology laboratory is asked to identify the causative agent of a fungal keratitis. Microscopic examination of corneal scrapings reveals broad, aseptate hyphae with right-angle branching. The MOST likely genus is:

- A. *Fusarium*
- B. *Aspergillus*
- C. *Candida*
- D. *Mucor* or *Rhizopus*

Answer: D

NEW QUESTION # 140

The direct fluorescent antibody (DFA) test is commonly used for the rapid detection of which respiratory pathogen directly from nasopharyngeal specimens?

- A. Influenza virus
- B. *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*
- C. *Legionella pneumophila* (serogroup 1 in sputum)
- D. *Bordetella pertussis*

Answer: D

NEW QUESTION # 141

A research laboratory is investigating the mechanisms of antigenic variation in *Trypanosoma brucei*, the causative agent of African trypanosomiasis. The parasite evades the host immune response by periodically changing its surface coat protein. This process primarily involves:

- A. High-frequency point mutations in the gene encoding the variant surface glycoprotein (VSG).
- B. Recombination between different VSG gene loci on minichromosomes.

- Answer: C**

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