Pediatric Cardiology Questions

1. In addition to irritability, sweating, and difficulty breathing with feeding, the symptom that is MOST indicative of congestive heart failure in a 3-week-old infant is

   A. ascites
   B. cough
   C. cyanosis
   D. diminished feeding volume
   E. pretibial edema

2. A 3-month-old girl who has Down syndrome exhibits poor weight gain, tachypnea, and a low-pitched grade 2 systolic murmur. Chest radiography reveals cardiomegaly and increased pulmonary vascularity. Electrocardiography documents right ventricular hypertrophy and a superior frontal plane QRS axis.

   Of the following, the MOST likely diagnosis is

   A. coarctation of the aorta
   B. complete atrioventricular septal defect
   C. patent ductus arteriosus
   D. perimembranous ventricular septal defect
   E. secundum atrial septal defect

3. A healthy 8-month-old boy has had intermittent episodes of intense cyanosis of the hands, lower arms, and feet since birth. The infant appears alert and playful during the episodes. At other times, his arms and legs are pink but have a “mottled” appearance. Physical examination reveals no remarkable findings other than mottling of the extremities.

   Of the following, the BEST diagnostic test for this child is

   A. ambulatory electrocardiography to detect arrhythmia
   B. co-oximetry to detect methemoglobinemia
   C. echocardiography to detect congenital heart disease
   D. electroencephalography to detect a seizure disorder
   E. no test because these symptoms are benign

4. Iron deficiency in a child who has unrepaired cyanotic congenital heart disease is MOST likely to increase the risk for

   A. congestive heart failure
   B. digoxin toxicity
   C. osteoarthropathy
   D. pulmonary hemorrhage
   E. stroke
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5. You are evaluating a 16-year-old girl who complains of the sensation of a racing heart and nervousness. She has lost 3.0 kg in 2 months. On physical examination, her heart rate is 110 beats/min, and she has a fine tremor.

Of the following, the MOST likely diagnosis is

A. anorexia nervosa  
B. anxiety disorder  
C. hyperthyroidism  
D. postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome  
E. supraventricular tachycardia

6. A 12-year-old girl complains of episodic chest pains with a sensation of a pounding heart. She has also had several spells of feeling lightheaded and a previous diagnosis of migraine headaches. She reports that her father “faints when he sees blood.” Results of physical examination are normal.

Of the following, the MOST likely diagnosis is

A. anxiety disorder  
B. hyperthyroidism  
C. long QT syndrome  
D. postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome  
E. supraventricular tachycardia

7. A term newborn has tachypnea, rales, tachycardia, audible gallop, and diminished arm and leg pulses. Echocardiography shows enlargement of both ventricular chambers, with good systolic function and no congenital heart disease.

Of the following, the MOST likely diagnosis is

A. carnitine deficiency  
B. hyperthyroidism  
C. hypoglycemia  
D. intracranial arteriovenous malformation  
E. pheochromocytoma

8. A 14-year-old boy complains of nearly constant chest pain for the past 2 days that worsens when he is lying supine.

Of the following, the MOST likely cause is

A. Borrelia myocarditis  
B. enteroviral pericarditis  
C. idiopathic costochondritis  
D. primary pulmonary hypertension  
E. slipped rib syndrome
9. Blood pressure is measured and compared with normal standards for age and gender on routine health supervision visits.

Of the following, the findings that are MOST likely to require evaluation are

A. diastolic blood pressure at the 90th percentile and a positive family history for hypertension
B. diastolic blood pressure at the 90th percentile and a positive family history of stroke
C. systolic blood pressure at the 90th percentile and a positive family history of hypertension
D. systolic blood pressure at the 90th percentile and a positive family history of stroke
E. systolic blood pressure at the 95th percentile and a negative family history of hypertension

10. You are examining a previously healthy 4-month-old boy who recently began to fail to thrive. Physical examination reveals tachypnea, gallop, and grade 1 systolic ejection murmur. Chest radiography shows cardiomegaly and increased pulmonary vascularity.

Of the following, the MOST likely diagnosis is

A. hypoplastic left heart syndrome
B. pulmonary arteriovenous malformations
C. supracardiac total anomalous pulmonary venous return
D. transposition of the great vessels
E. truncus arteriosus communis