

# CME/CE Post Test

Record your answers to these questions on the answer sheet on page 95.

- 1. According to findings by Henry et al, which of the following was the most common side effect of cancer therapy reported by patients?**
  - a. Nausea and/or vomiting
  - b. Fatigue
  - c. Mucositis
  - d. Insomnia
- 2. Which of the following statements about the use of darbepoetin alfa in low-risk myelodysplastic syndrome patients (Gabrilove et al) is true?**
  - a. Major responses were observed in 59% of patients naive to erythropoiesis-stimulating agents (ESAs) and in 34% with prior treatment.
  - b. The target hemoglobin level of 11 g/dL was achieved by 82% in the treatment-naive group and by 55% in the prior-treatment group.
  - c. The mean change in FACT-F score from baseline was clinically significant in ESA-naive and -treated patients.
  - d. All of the above
- 3. The Brief Functional Capacity Tool (Cella et al) for detecting deficits related to fatigue in anemic cancer patients receiving chemotherapy was highly correlated with all of the factors below except:**
  - a. Hemoglobin level
  - b. Energy
  - c. Pain
  - d. Productivity
- 4. Based on the findings by Schwartzberg et al in their study assessing the efficacy of using an extended-dose schedule versus a weekly schedule of darbepoetin alfa in cancer patients with chemotherapy-induced anemia, which of the following statements is not true?**
  - a. The red blood cell transfusion requirements were similar for both groups.
  - b. The change in FACT-F scores was similar for both groups.
  - c. Neither regimen was considered inferior to the other.
  - d. The incidence of adverse events was higher in the extended-dose group.
- 5. Which of the following findings was demonstrated by Chen and colleagues in their observational review of the Dosing and Outcomes Study of Erythropoiesis-Stimulating Therapies (DOSE) Registry?**
  - a. Anemia-related costs were 12% lower in the epoetin alfa group than in the darbepoetin alfa group.
  - b. The darbepoetin alfa group incurred fewer office visits than those treated with epoetin alfa.
  - c. More injections of erythropoietic agents were made in the group treated with darbepoetin alfa.
  - d. The target hemoglobin level of 11 g/dL was achieved and maintained in the darbepoetin alfa group at all assessed time points.
- 6. In Belani et al's phase II study evaluating same-day versus next-day pegfilgrastim with carboplatin and docetaxel in patients with NSCLC, what percentage of patients in the next-day group experienced grade 4 neutropenia that lasted for 1 day only during cycle 4?**
  - a. 10%
  - b. 5%
  - c. 0%
  - d. 15%
- 7. The prechemotherapy use of a febrile neutropenia risk-assessment tool by oncology nurses (Doyle et al):**
  - a. Reduced the number of hospitalizations for febrile neutropenia by 78%.
  - b. Lowered the total number of hospital days.
  - c. Decreased the reactive use of growth factors.
  - d. All of the above
- 8. Which of the following statements concerning the impact of first- and subsequent-cycle pegfilgrastim use on neutropenic events in patients receiving myelosuppressive chemotherapy (Ozer et al) is true?**
  - a. Febrile neutropenia was experienced by 6.3% of patients in cycle 1 and in 3.6% of patients in all cycles.
  - b. Grade 3/4 neutropenia occurred in 29.5% of patients in cycle 1 and in 21.3% of patients in all cycles.
  - c. Hospitalization for neutropenia occurred in 2.9% of patients during cycle 1 and in 5.6% of patients in all cycles.
  - d. Dose reductions/delays did not favor the use of pegfilgrastim during cycle 1.
- 9. In Saven and colleagues' phase II study of same-day versus next-day administration of pegfilgrastim with R-CHOP chemotherapy in non-Hodgkin's lymphoma patients, patients in the same-day group experienced:**
  - a. A 0.9-day longer duration of grade 4 neutropenia
  - b. More serious adverse events
  - c. A higher rate of treatment discontinuation
  - d. Substantially lower rates of febrile neutropenia
- 10. The economic burden of care for reasons related to febrile neutropenia in cancer patients receiving chemotherapy, according to Weycker et al, is higher than previously reported, with the cost being underestimated by as much as:**
  - a. 10%–15%
  - b. 25%–30%
  - c. 40%–45%
  - d. 55%–60%

- 11. Based on the prospective study performed by Isitt et al on oral mucositis-related morbidity in patients with head and neck cancer receiving radiation therapy with or without chemotherapy, which of the following statements is true?**
- Severe mouth and throat soreness occurred in 53% of patients.
  - More than half of patients required a feeding tube, and nearly 1 in 10 patients had a mucositis-related hospitalization.
  - Functional impairment related to mucositis improved dramatically with opioid analgesics.
  - The national average cost for a 5-day hospitalization over the study period was nearly \$10,000.
- 12. Which of the following was not a reported outcome with the use of palifermin in the controlled clinical trial (Nasilowska-Adamska et al) of patients with hematologic diseases undergoing hematopoietic stem cell transplantation?**
- Substantial decrease in the incidence of febrile neutropenia
  - Reduction in the incidence of acute graft-versus-host disease, especially the gastrointestinal form
  - Shorter mean duration of grades 1–4 mucositis
  - Less of a need for analgesics and feeding tubes
- 13. Based on the study findings of Schuster and colleagues, which dose of velafermin appeared to be active in reducing chemotherapy-induced severe oral mucositis in autologous hematopoietic stem cell transplant patients?**
- 0.1 mg/kg
  - 0.03 mg/kg
  - 0.2 mg/kg
  - None of the above
- 14. Which of the following treatment arms experienced the most severe incidence of oral mucositis (82%) in the randomized, collapsed-dose study of palifermin performed by Shea et al?**
- Arm A—60 µg/kg once daily for 3 days before the start of fractionated total-body irradiation
  - Arm B—180 µg/kg given once only on day –1 before the start of fractionated total-body irradiation
  - Arm C—180 µg/kg given once only on day –2 before the start of fractionated total-body irradiation
  - Arm D—180 µg/kg given once only on day –3 before the start of fractionated total-body irradiation
- 15. In the total population of patients with multiple myeloma or non-Hodgkin's lymphoma studied by Blijlevens et al, what was the overall incidence of severe oral mucositis?**
- 17%
  - 31%
  - 44%
  - 62%
- 16. Preliminary results with the oral platelet growth factor eltrombopag (Bussel) in the treatment of chronic immune thrombocytopenic purpura included:**
- Increased platelet counts with both the 50-mg and 75-mg doses
  - A trend toward decreased bleeding events with both the 50-mg and 75-mg doses
  - A dose-dependent increase in the proportion of responders
  - All of the above
- 17. Desjardins et al reported which of the following outcomes in their study of single and multiple oral doses of AKR-501 (YM477) in healthy volunteers?**
- The drug was better tolerated in the single-dose phase of the trial.
  - Platelet counts increased at the lower doses (3 mg and 10 mg) and continued to rise on a dose-dependent basis.
  - Serious adverse experiences were reported with the higher doses (75 mg and 100 mg).
  - All of the above
- 18. In the study by Godeau and colleagues, rituximab was found to be a splenectomy-sparing alternative for adults with chronic immune thrombocytopenic purpura, leading to a significant, durable response in what percentage of patients?**
- 40%
  - 25%
  - 10%
  - 60%
- 19. Which of the following statements regarding the platelet aggregation analysis of AMG 531 by Kumagai and colleagues is not true?**
- Pharmacodynamic responses of Japanese men were similar to those seen in previous studies of AMG 531 in non-Japanese subjects.
  - No severe adverse events were reported with any dose used.
  - AMG 531 effectively increased platelet counts when given as one subcutaneous dose of 0.3 µg/kg.
  - Platelets generated after exposure to the drug functioned normally.
- 20. According to Kantarjian et al, the reported incidence of thrombocytopenia related to treatment for myelodysplastic syndrome was more than 50% in studies involving which of the following?**
- Lenalidomide
  - Azacytidine
  - Combined use of idarubicin, cytarabine, and topotecan
  - All of the above