ANSWERS TO THE MEDICAL QUIZ

CASE 1

Answer 1. This infant is demonstrating a specific convulsive "disorder" of infancy and childhood spontaneously.

1				
	PRE-ICTAL	ICTAL		POST-ICTAL
		Extensor		
		Flexor		
•	A	Mixed		

CLINICAL FORMS OF INFANTILE SPASMS

Answer 2. An electro-encephalogram (EEG) is indicated for diagnosis.

Answer 3. The EEG typically shows a chaotic appearance consisting of very high voltage, random, slow waves and spikes in all cortical areas. The spikes vary from moment to moment in duration and location. This pattern is known as hypsarrythmia.

Answer 4. Infantile spasms is the entity diagnosed here.

Answer 5. Adrenocorticosteroids (ACTH) and/or corticosteroids are effective in the treatment of infantile spasms. Benzodiazepines (nitrazepam, clonazepam and diazepam) have been advocated but no controlled comparison has been made with these drugs and ACTH or corticosteroids.

Reference:

Glaze DG, Zion T E, eds. Infantile spasms. In: Current problems in paediatrics. 1985;15:11.

CASE 2

Answer 1.

Moderate "widening" of the coronal sutures. The other sutures are normal and so is the sella turcica. No intra-cranial calcification.

Also "hair-on-end" appearance due to chronic anaemia.

Answer 2.

- a) Metastatic neuroblastoma
- b) Raised intra-cranial tension
- c) Traumatic sutural diastasis
- d) Leukaemia, lymphoma

Answer 3.

Metastatic neuroblastoma

References.

- 1. Reeder M, Felson B. Gamus in radiology. Cincinnati: Audiovisual Radiology of Cincinnati Inc, 1975; A 34.
- 2. Caffey J. Paediatric X-ray diagnosis. 6th ed. London: Yearbook Medical Publishers Inc, 1973; 808-811.

Anyone interested in presenting a quiz for publication should contact Dr. Akbar Mohsin Mohammad on Tel: 250662.