



FACULTY OF MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF RUHUNA
Second Examination for Medical Degrees-April 2019
Biochemistry-Paper II

Answer All Five Questions.

24th April 2019

Answer each question in a separate book.

2.00 p.m- 5.00 p.m

Marks allocated to each part of a question are shown within parenthesis.

(Three hours)

Handover each book separately.

1. 1.1 A female patient with type 2 diabetes mellitus for 10 year duration underwent her routine medical check-up and she was found to have microalbuminuria.
- 1.1.1 Explain the biochemical basis for the development of microalbuminuria. (35 Marks)
- 1.1.2 List the biochemical investigations which could be routinely used to monitor the glycaemic control of this patient. (15 Marks)
- 1.1.3 Select the best investigation from 1.1.2 and explain the biochemical basis of the investigation. (25 Marks)
- 1.2 Explain the biochemical basis of the development of hypopigmentation in classical phenylketonuria. (25 Marks)
2. 2.1 Explain the biochemical basis of the following.
- 2.1.1 Development of jaundice in a patient suspected to have acute viral hepatitis. (25 Marks)
- 2.1.2 Development of ketoacidosis in a patient with uncontrolled diabetes mellitus. (35 Marks)
- 2.1.3 Occurrence of hypercholesterolaemia and hypertriglyceridaemia in an obese person who is a chronic alcohol user and a chain smoker. (40 Marks)
- 3 3.1 3.1.1 Explain how abnormalities in nucleotide metabolism could lead to severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID). (25 Marks)
- 3.1.2 State one modern therapeutic approach for SCID. (10 Marks)
- 3.1.3 Explain briefly the molecular basis of the therapeutic approach stated in 3.1.2. (25 Marks)
- 3.2 Explain the biochemical basis of the following.
- 3.2.1 Administration of lactulose in chronic liver disease. (20 Marks)
- 3.2.2 Estimation of serum α -fetoprotein concentration to monitor treatment of testicular cancer. (20 Marks)

4. Explain the following.

- 4.1 Molecular mechanisms involved in the action of insulin at cellular level. (25 Marks)
- 4.2 The role of hexose monophosphate pathway in the prevention of infections. (25 Marks)
- 4.3 Use of carbimazole in the management of Graves' disease. (25 Marks)
- 4.4 Sickle cell disease is the result of a missense mutation. (25 Marks)

5. 5.1 A 40-year old male was hospitalized after a motor vehicle accident with a severe concussion, a broken jaw, multiple broken bones, and possible internal injuries.

His height and weight measurements are 160 cm and 50 kg respectively.

Basal metabolic rate (BMR) for a male = $66.5 + 13.8(W) + 5(H) - 6.8(A)$

Activity factor for a patient confined to bed : 1.2

Stress/Injury factor in skeletal trauma : 1.4

- 5.1.1 State the type of feeding that would be recommended for the above patient. Give reasons. (15 Marks)
- 5.1.2 Calculate the daily total energy requirement for the above person assuming he was confined to bed during the whole day. (30 Marks)
- 5.2 Briefly explain the main considerations in planning a diet for a patient with tissue injury. (30 Marks)
- 5.3 Explain the biochemical basis. (25 Marks)
- Continuous supply of vitamin A is essential for the prevention of nyctalopia (delayed adaptation to dim light).

Senior Assistant Librarian