

MULTIPLE CHOICE

AB SPLEEN - PRACTICE SET - ANSWER KEY

PROPOSED FOR REVIEW - questions are the author's verbatim Q&A; distractors are auto-selected from other answers in the same bank and must be checked by a subject-matter reviewer (a distractor could coincidentally be correct). Not authoritative assessment content.

1. Which group of phagocytic cells makes up the reticuloendothelial system and participates in the synthesis of blood proteins and hematopoiesis?

- A. Erythrocytes
- B. Neutrophils
- C. Plasma cells
- D. Reticuloendothelial cells (macrophages)**

2. What is the typical sonographic appearance of a splenic cavernous hemangioma?

- A. A well-defined anechoic cyst with thin walls and posterior enhancement.
- B. An inhomogeneous echogenic mass with multiple small hypoechoic areas.**
- C. A markedly hypoechoic mass with shadowing.
- D. A peripheral wedge-shaped hyperechoic lesion.

3. Which term means within the peritoneal cavity?

- A. Retroperitoneal
- B. Intraperitoneal**
- C. Extraperitoneal
- D. Subperitoneal

4. Which of the following can cause caudal (inferior) displacement of the spleen?

- A. A large splenic cyst, a left pleural effusion, or a left subphrenic abscess**
- B. Volume loss in the left lung
- C. Left lower lobe pneumonia
- D. Paralysis of the left hemidiaphragm

5. What is the condition called in which multiple discrete spleens are present, often associated with heterotaxy syndromes?

- A. Asplenia
- B. Polysplenia**
- C. Splenosis
- D. Accessory spleen

6. True or False: Infarcts and thromboses are common complications in polycythemia vera.

- A. False.
- B. True.**

7. Which storage disease is a rapidly fatal condition that predominantly affects female infants?

- A. Letterer-Siwe disease.
- B. Niemann-Pick disease.**
- C. Gaucher disease.
- D. Hand-Schuller-Christian disease.

8. Systemic splenic venous congestion is most commonly associated with which cardiac condition?

- A. Left-sided cardiac decompensation.
- B. Right-sided cardiac decompensation.**
- C. Aortic stenosis.
- D. Atrial septal defect with left-to-right shunt.

9. Splenic abscesses are best described as which of the following?

- A. Uncommon.
- B. More common than splenomegaly.
- C. The most frequent splenic pathology.
- D. Common.

10. Which term describes complete congenital absence of the spleen?

- A. Functional hyposplenism
- B. Polysplenism
- C. Splenic atrophy
- D. Splenic agenesis (asplenia)

11. What is the splenic process by which nuclei or other inclusions are removed from red blood cells without destroying the erythrocytes themselves called?

- A. Culling
- B. Pitting
- C. Phagocytosis
- D. Sequestration

12. Which list correctly identifies major causes of splenomegaly?

- A. Infection, trauma, congestion, storage disease, neoplasm, hemolytic anemia, collagen vascular disease, and extramedullary hematopoiesis.
- B. Sickle cell disease and thalassemia only.
- C. Cirrhosis only.
- D. Lymphoma and leukemia only.

13. What is the process by which the spleen removes abnormal red blood cells from the circulation as they pass through it called?

- A. Pitting
- B. Culling
- C. Sequestration
- D. Hemolysis

14. Which best describes the spleen in the early stages of sickle cell anemia?

- A. Normal in size with focal hyperechoic nodules.
- B. Small and fibrotic with diffuse calcifications.
- C. Enlarged with marked congestion of the red pulp.
- D. Anechoic and replaced by cystic spaces.

15. What is the most consistent sonographic finding in polycythemia vera?

- A. A small, fibrotic spleen.
- B. Splenomegaly.
- C. Multiple anechoic splenic cysts.
- D. Diffuse calcifications throughout the splenic parenchyma.

16. Which set best describes the four sonographic patterns of malignant splenic lymphoma?

- A. Diffuse involvement, focal small nodular lesions, focal large nodular lesions, and bulky disease
- B. Wedge-shaped, peripheral, hyperechoic, and avascular
- C. Solid, cystic, mixed, and target-pattern
- D. Anechoic, hypoechoic, hyperechoic, and calcified

17. In the spleen, the process by which the red pulp destroys degenerating red blood cells is called:

- A. Erythropoiesis
- B. Apoptosis
- C. Hematopoiesis
- D. Phagocytosis

18. What is the most common cause of congestive splenomegaly?

- A. Cirrhosis of the liver.
- B. Portal vein tumor invasion.
- C. Splenic vein thrombosis.
- D. Right-sided heart failure.

19. Where within the spleen is splenic pulp (red and white) located?

- A. Within the splenic hilum only
- B. Within the lobules of the spleen**
- C. Within the splenic capsule
- D. Within the trabecular arteries

20. What can cause the spleen to be displaced inferiorly?

- A. Left lower lobe pneumonia
- B. Paralysis of the left hemidiaphragm
- C. A mass in the left upper quadrant pushing the spleen downward**
- D. Volume loss in the left lung

21. Which set of sonographic features is most characteristic of hepatosplenic candidiasis?

- A. Multiple anechoic, smooth-walled cysts with through-transmission
- B. Wheel-within-a-wheel or bull's-eye lesions, with hypoechoic or hyperechoic nodules in the spleen**
- C. Diffuse hyperechoic parenchyma with posterior shadowing
- D. Wedge-shaped peripheral hypoechoic lesions with the base at the capsule

22. An abnormal increase in the number of circulating red blood cells is called:

- A. Erythropenia
- B. Polycythemia**
- C. Thrombocytosis
- D. Leukocytosis

23. Sequestration of leukocytes within an enlarged spleen most commonly produces which laboratory finding?

- A. Leukocytosis.
- B. Polycythemia.
- C. Thrombocytosis.
- D. Leukopenia.**

24. What is the typical clinical presentation of a primary splenic cyst?

- A. An asymptomatic left upper quadrant mass**
- B. Severe left upper quadrant pain with hypotension
- C. Fever, chills, and leukocytosis
- D. Hematemesis and melena

25. Which type of anemia is caused by antibodies produced by the patient's own immune system against the red blood cells?

- A. Autoimmune hemolytic anemia**
- B. Sickle cell anemia
- C. Iron deficiency anemia
- D. Aplastic anemia