

## Rheumatoid

- With the false positive of syphilis in SLE, how do you diagnose syphilis? Is it just through history and clinical presentation?
- With the lower sensitivity of anti-ds-DNA and anti-smith antibodies in SLE, is it prudent to order these in an initial diagnostic workup of SLE?
- In Antiphospholipid Antibody Syndrome, what is the recommended anticoagulation therapy time frame?
- What is the most common cause of death with someone with SLE?
- In clinical practice for disorders such lupus or rheumatoid arthritis, are there specific screening tests that you use or do you order the entire range of tests seen in text books?
- If caught early, can ankylosing spondylitis be slowed in its progression by exercise?
- In diseases that require DMARD's, when do you move on to other drugs such as TNF inhibitors?
  - How long do you wait till you switch?
- In rheumatic disorders, what are some pain control options you use outside of NSAID's?
- What are contraindications you look for before prescribing biologic drugs such as TNFalpha or infliximab, since they affect the immune system?
- In pts with rheumatologic disorders, do you find that most have compounding autoimmune disorders that make treatment difficult?
- What are the most common infections seen in SLE? Are the infections seen primarily a result of leukopenia from autoantibodies against them or is there another mechanism for infection?
- How often do you see the association between SLE and Antiphospholipid antibody syndrome?
  - What is the mechanism by which all the thrombosis occurs?
  - Why is the PTT falsely elevated?
  - What is your choice of lifelong coagulation for these patients?
  - Can cause recurrent pregnancy loss – is the treatment of women that are pregnant or planning to become pregnant different from the treatment for everyone else with APAS?
- Is sjogrens syndrome always associated with other autoimmune co-morbidities such as rheumatoid arthritis, or do you see it independent of other diseases?
- What exactly IS a rheumatoid nodule? Similar to a granuloma, correct?
  - Can you explain how the synovitis pannus forms? Or is that the same thing as a rheumatoid nodule?
- Which rheumatoid screening test do you use?
- Is a malar rash pretty much always associated with SLE, or do you ever see them in dermatomyositis or other conditions?
- What is inclusion body myositis and how is it different from dermatomyositis?
- What is the prevalence of Reiter's syndrome in cases on Chlamydia? (conjunctivitis, urethritis, arthritis)