

Answers.

A 69 year old lady has been referred to clinic with a history of palpitations. On assessment of rhythm and character of pulse there is a rapid fall in pulse pressure when the patient's arm is raised. This is characteristic of:

- a. aortic regurgitation
- b. aortic stenosis
- c. mitral stenosis
- d. mitral regurgitation
- e. mitral valve prolapse

A 45 year old gentleman is referred with a history of loss of consciousness. On assessment he tells you he has had three episodes within the past six months. On two occasions he experienced prodromal symptoms, however on the third occasion he had no warning. What do the DVLA guidelines recommend with regards to driving in this situation?

- a. licence refused/revoked for 6 months if no cause identified
- b. no driving restrictions
- c. licence revoked or refused for 12 months or until risk has been reduced to <20% per annum
- d. licence may be issued when there has been a period of between 3 and 6 months' satisfactory control of symptoms with appropriate treatment
- e. if a person suffers recurrent episodes of loss of consciousness with seizure markers, 12 months' freedom from such episodes must be attained

NICE guidance for Dabigatran etexilate recommends the use of dabigatran as an option for the prevention of stroke and systemic embolism within its licensed indication, that is, in people with non-valvular atrial fibrillation with one or more of the following risk factors:

- a. previous intracranial bleed
- b. left ventricular ejection fraction <35%
- c. symptomatic heart failure of New York Heart Association (NYHA) class III or above
- d. age 80 years or older
- e. age 65 years or older with one of the following: diabetes mellitus, coronary artery disease or hypertension