1. Myasthenia gravis
   a. is considered to be an infectious disease
   b. is associated with nerve damage in the brain
   c. is a chronic disease associated with neuromuscular dysfunction
   d. is similar to cirrhosis

2. The typical age of onset for myasthenia gravis is
   a. 20-35 years
   b. Greater than 60 years
   c. childhood
   d. before age 20

3. Which of the following diseases have been associated with myasthenia gravis?
   a. rheumatoid arthritis
   b. thyroiditis
   c. systemis lupus erythermatosus
   d. all of the above

4. The primary physiological substance associated with myasthenia gravis is
   a. norepinephrine
   b. acetylcholine
   c. pancreatin
   d. myasthenase

5. Although the exact etiology is not completely clear, myasthenia gravis is probably related to which of the following?
   a. an abnormal transmitter called myasthenase
   b. autoimmune mechanisms that damage the motor end plate membrane and its acetylcholine receptors
   c. impaired synthesis of norepinephrine
   d. a & c

6. Which of the following drugs should be administered with caution, or not at all, in patients with myasthenia gravis?
   a. penicillamine
   b. procainamide
   c. gentamicin
   d. all of the above

7. Which of the following is the most common symptom of myasthenia gravis
   a. muscle weakness
   b. back pain
   c. nausea and vomiting
   d. headache

8. In the early stages of myasthenia gravis, which area is the most commonly affected?
   a. GI tract
   b. leg muscles
   c. ocular muscles
   d. neck

9. Which of the following drugs is used to confirm the diagnosis of myasthenia gravis?
   a. edrophonium
   b. prednisone
   c. spironolactone
   d. myasthenian

10. Pyridostigmine
    a. is used primarily by injection
    b. has a half-life of 1.5 days
    c. may be administered in a syrup dosage form
    d. may cause constipation in about 50% of the patients

11. Neostigmine
    a. has very high bioavailability
    b. has a half-life of about an hour
    c. is only used for diagnostic purposes
    d. is used in a dose of 1 gram every 6 hours

12. Prednisone
    a. must be used in alternate day therapy to be effective
    b. is used in a set dose of 20 mg in all patients
    c. must be used with a diuretic in treating myasthenia gravis
    d. none of the above

13. Azathioprine
    a. is used in myasthenia gravis because of the autoimmune character of the disease
    b. must be used with cyclosporine in treating myasthenia gravis
    c. produces no adverse effects
    d. is successful in about 99% of the cases

14. Thymectomy
    a. should be done in all patients with myasthenia gravis
    b. is used primarily in adolescents with myasthenia gravis
    c. is beneficial and undertaken in patients under age 60, unless weakness is restricted to the ocular muscle
    d. is used only in those patients with ocular muscle weakness

15. Plasma exchange
    a. produces marked improvement in about half the patients between the first and fourth exchange
    b. often provides remission for many years
    c. produces improvement from out one to twelve weeks
    d. a and c

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