

Case 12

Question 1 (written by Joe Edwards)

Read the following clinical scenario:

A child and their parents arrive at an emergency department. The parents report that the 3 year-old child has been distressed, and has been projectile vomiting and passing bloody diarrhoea for the last 2 hours. The child has dry mucous membranes on examination and is tachycardic. Yesterday, the whole family went to a children's farm where the child took part in an animal handling session. The same symptoms have been noted in 3 other young children who attended the same farm in recent weeks.

- a) State the name and most likely causative organism of this clinical condition given the information given. [2]

- b) Explain why antibiotics would not be indicated in this case. [2]

- c) Explain why it would be inappropriate to obtain consent from this patient, and state what should be sought in place of consent from the patient in this case. [3]

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Question 2 (written by Joe Edwards)

A 24 year old patient presents to a GP with worsening gastrointestinal symptoms that have been worrying him for a number of years now. After taking a full history and conducting an examination, the GP wishes to investigate the possibility of inflammatory bowel disease.

- a) List four of the cardinal gastrointestinal symptoms. [2]

- b) Suggest a non-invasive test the GP could perform to give some idea of whether IBD is present.

[1]

- c) Using the above information, state two risk factors this patient has for IBD.

[2]

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The patient goes on to have a colonoscopy with biopsy to definitively diagnose IBD. This allows either ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease to be diagnosed.

- d) Compare and contrast the pathological features of ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease. [5]
