Choose the statements that are correct:

1. Regarding the piriformis syndrome

More than one answer may be correct.

- a. Piriformis syndrome occurs most frequently in people with particular occupations or particular activities.
- b. Piriformis syndrome has been reported in 5 36% of individuals with chronic low back pain.
- c. Piriformis syndrome is as common in men as it is in women.
- d. The piriformis muscle takes its origin from S2, S3 and S4 levels of the sacrum, passes through the greater sciatic foramen and is attached at or near the greater trochanter of the femur.
- e. Spasm in the piriformis muscle can cause pain and muscular difficulties in the areas covered by the sciatic and pudendal nerves.

2. Fetal liver length measurement (FLL) and gestational diabetes (GDM)

More than one answer may be correct.

- a. GDM has recently been defined by the American Diabetes Association as diabetes occurring in the 2nd or 3rd trimester of pregnancy that does not appear to be associated with overt diabetes.
- b. People of South Asian, Black Caribbean and Middle Eastern origin have a lower incidence of diabetes.
- c. Patients with GDM have a higher incidence of pre-eclampsia, stillbirth and premature labour.
- d. According to the NICE guideline, a patient may be diagnosed as having GDM if the fasting plasma glucose exceeds 5.6 mmol/L or a 2- hour glucose exceeds 7.8 mmol/L
- e. Increased FLL as an indicator of possible GDM can first be measured in the 2nd trimester

3. Hypokalaemia and geophagia

More than one answer may be correct.

- a. The normal range for plasma potassium is 3.9 5.8 mmol/L.
- Severe hypokalemia may be defined as a plasma potassium of < 2.5 mmol/L.
- c. The overall incidence of geophagia in the population studied was a little over 63%.
- d. In the population studied a higher meat consumption was associated with hypokalemia
- e. A high intake of caffeine shifts potassium into the intracellular compartment.

4 Abruptio placentae (AP)

More than one answer may be correct.

- a. Obstetric haemorrhage is the second most common cause of maternal mortality in South Africa.
- b. AP occurs in 3% of all pregnancies.
- c. Class 2 abruption may include a clotting profile alteration with hyperfibrinogenaemia.
- d. A finding of this study was that the typical associations with AP were not seen in the patients studied.
- e. A finding of this study was that the classical clinical features of AP such as a woody hard uterus was a late finding occurring in severe placental separation.

5. Evaluating the decision-to-delivery interval (DDI) in category 1 emergency caesarean sections

More than one answer may be correct.

- a. Emergency caesarean sections may be categorised into three grades according to the Leuchars classification system.
- b. The overall median (interquartile range) DDI in the study was 75 (58 97) mins.
- c. The study found a clear association between worsening 5-minute Apgar score and increasing DDI.
- d. In 1979, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Committee on Professional Standards recommended that in the case of emergency caesarean section, the DDI should not exceed 30 minutes.
- e. Not all category 1 caesarean sections are equal in their urgency.

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