Chronic Illnesses I

Biologic Disease-Modifying Antirheumatic Drugs

Learning Objectives

1. Distinguish between biologic DMARD use and nonbiologic DMARD use in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis (RA).
2. Assess the differences between classes of biologic disease–modifying antirheumatic drug (DMARD) therapy.
3. Based on individual patient characteristics, construct a treatment and monitoring plan for a patient with RA and, when appropriate, include biologic DMARD therapy.
4. Justify switching agents or usingcombination therapy with nonbiologic DMARDs when treatment with DMARD monotherapy fails.
5. Evaluate the need for tuberculosis screening and vaccinations in patients either starting or currently receiving biologic DMARDs.
6. Evaluate the precautions, contraindications, and warnings involving the use of biologic DMARDs in high–risk patients.

Osteoarthritis

Learning Objectives

1. Distinguish the probable etiology for a patient with osteoarthritis (OA).
2. For a given patient, classify OA according to the criteria of the hands, hip, or knee.
3. Evaluate the role of evidence–based therapeutic approaches to OA.
4. Design an effective treatment plan, including goals of therapy, nonpharmacologic and pharmacologic therapy, and a monitoring plan, for a patient with OA.

Overweight and Obesity

Learning Objectives

1. Classify overweight and obesity and develop patientspecific weight loss goals.
2. Assess the role of endocrine, neurohormonal, and environmental factors on the development of obesity.
3. Analyze a patient profile to identify potential drug induced weight gain and suggest alternatives that are weight neutral or associated with weight loss.
4. Devise a patient–specific treatment plan, including evidence–based comprehensive lifestyle recommendations, for a patient who is overweight or obese.
5. Evaluate the safety and efficacy of drug therapy for the treatment of obesity.
6. Distinguish between the types, expected benefits, and risks of bariatric surgery.

7. Devise a nutritional plan for a patient after bariatric surgery and evaluate the need for changes in the individual's drug regimen.

Transitions of Care

Learning Objectives

1. Distinguish the types of care transitions and relevant challenges patients may experience in the health care system.
2. Assess patients for risk factors associated with adverse events during transitions of care (TOC).
3. Design a plan to improve the transitions of care process using established TOC models and the primary literature.
4. Apply existing quality metrics endorsed by health care quality-sponsoring organizations to improve TOC.
5. Develop an individualized patient plan to improve the TOC process.