

Syllabus	OB_IL_07
Topic	Post-dural puncture headache (PDPH)

a)

List 4 symptoms of PDPH (4 marks)

1.
2.
3.
4.

b)

List 3 potential differential diagnoses for PDPH (3 marks)

1.
2.
3.

c)

Name 5 indications for considering neuro-imaging? (5 marks)

1.
2.
4.
5.
6.

d)

What is the success rate of Epidural blood patch (EBP)? (1 mark)

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e)

How does the success rate of EBP change with the timing of EBP? (1 mark)

.....

f)

Name 2 risks of EBP placement (2 marks)

1.

2.

g)

Name 4 contraindications to EBP (4 marks)

1.

2.

3.

4.

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Q	Answer	Mark	Guidance
a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postural front-occipital headache • Neck stiffness • Photophobia • Vomiting • Diplopia • Hearing loss • Tinnitus • Vertigo 	1 mark for each point (Max. 4)	
b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-specific postural headache • Migraine • Pre-eclampsia • Septic and aseptic meningitis • Intracranial haemorrhage or mass • Cerebral vein thrombosis • Postnatal depression headache 	1 mark for each point (Max. 3)	
c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature of the headache changes • Headache is atypical • Neurological signs • Reduced GCS • >2 unsuccessful blood patches 	1 mark for each point (Max. 5)	See OAA PDPH guideline
d)	• Complete – partial relief in 50-80% with first patch	1	See OAA PDPH guideline
e)	• EBP within 24 hrs has a lower success rate	1	See OAA PDPH guideline
f)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeat dural puncture • Back pain • Neurological complications 	1 mark for each point (Max. 2)	
g)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticoagulation • Systemic infection • Local infection at epidural site • Patient red flags suggestion neurological pathology • Patient refusal 	1 mark for each point (Max. 4)	

References:

1) Obstetric Anaesthetists' Association. Treatment of obstetric post-dural puncture headache (2018) <https://www.oaa-anaes.ac.uk/assets/managed/cms/files/Guidelines/New%20PDPH%20Guidelines.pdf>