
West Midlands Training Course in Clinical Biochemistry

Course Assessment – Autumn 2009

Essay Questions. Answer 2 questions only. Time allowed 1 hour 30 minutes.

- 1) Write short notes on each of the following:
 - a. Sequencing
 - b. Taqman assay for mutation detection
 - c. Single nucleotide polymorphisms

 - 2) Critically evaluate the role of the Clinical Chemistry laboratory in the investigation, diagnosis and monitoring of a patient thought to have acromegaly.

 - 3) Outline the biochemical pathway for the metabolism of haem. Describe the pathophysiology, biochemical features and clinical presentation of the porphyrias that are associated with skin lesions

 - 4) Outline the principles underlying HPLC. Discuss with examples the factors that are important in optimising an assay utilising HPLC.
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