Pain quiz answers for Registered Nurses, Doctors, and Pharmacists

1	Giving opioids on a regular schedule is preferred over a PRN schedule for persistent pain.	**True** / False
2	A patient should experience pain or discomfort prior to giving them the next dose of medication.	True / **False**
3	What is the preferred parenteral route of administration of opioids in cancer-related pain? Intravenous / Intramuscular / **Subcutaneous**	
3b	Indicate reason(s) for your choice: **Less invasive; less painful; less risk of infection; IV access can be difficult to manage in the community**	
4	As opioids can cause respiratory depression, their use is contraindicated in patients with respiratory disease.	True / **False**
5	When a patient requests increasing amounts of analgesics to control pain, this usually indicates that they are psychologically dependent.	True / **False**
6	For effective treatment of cancer pain, it is necessary to continuously assess the pain and the efficacy of the treatment.	**True** / False
7	What are the three main complications of opioids? 1 **Constipation** 2 **Dry mouth** 3 **Nausea**	
8	For constipation related to opiate use in people in palliative care, lactulose is the preferred laxative.	True / **False**
8b	Explain why: **It can cause bloating**	
9	Morphine elixir, when charted regularly for analgesia, should be given every **4** hours.	
9b	In people with renal impairment, how should the dosing regime be amended and why? **Dose and frequency reduction should be considered; in severe impairment, consider rotating to a safer opioid – fentanyl or methadone**	
10	In patients with dementia it is best to seek alternatives to morphine as analgesia to avoid worsening confusion.	**True** / False
11	When a patient is on Morphine Sulphate SR 60 mg bd, what is the appropriate breakthrough dose? **20mg**	
12	It may be useful to give a placebo to a patient in pain to assess that the pain is genuine.	True / **False**
13	It is a patient's right to expect total pain relief as a consequence of treatment. **Note: We aim to achieve total pain relief, but cannot guarantee it. A patient does have a right to expect total pain relief, but not necessarily to receive it. Either answer could be correct here.**	**True / False**
14	Lack of pain expression shows the patient has no pain.	True / **False**