1. Encephalopathy describes an alteration of awareness and behaviour, and can present not only as drowsiness but also agitation and confusion.
2. All children with altered behaviour must be referred to the hospital.
3. A simple febrile fit is a common cause of encephalopathy.
4. Neonatal seizures are most often focal and can be difficult to distinguish from other non-epileptic movements.
5. An 18-month-old child seemed lethargic, only opening her eyes when called. On examination, she was fretful and reached out spontaneously for her mother. She only cried during the consult and did not say any words or babble, although her mother said she was usually able to say ‘yes’, ‘no’ or ‘Mama’. Her Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) score is 14.
6. A developmental assessment should always be done, as stagnation or regression of milestones can accompany encephalopathy in more chronic cases.
7. Encephalopathy can be the first presenting symptom of systemic lupus erythematosus.
8. Accidental toxin ingestion is a possible cause of encephalopathy in a previously well three-year-old who seemed lethargic during the past few hours.
9. Hypoglycaemia can mimic encephalopathy and should be checked, especially in children aged under one year with a history of poor feeding and lethargy.
10. An 11-year-old girl presented with a one-week history of auditory hallucinations and decreased verbal output. Her mother said that she was sticking out her tongue and licking her lips frequently in the past three days. You should refer her for a psychiatric consult.
11. Infection is an important cause of encephalitis to exclude in children of all age groups.
12. A drop in GCS score of > 2 with tachycardia and elevated blood pressure is a red flag for immediate transfer to the emergency department.
13. All causes of encephalopathy are attributed to neurological conditions.
14. A teenager who has a GCS score of 15 but is unable to recall objects and obey a three-stage command on the Mini Mental State Examination should be suspected to be encephalopathic.
15. If a child looks lethargic and the hypocount shows a blood sugar level of 3 mmol/L, a cup of juice or a sweet should be offered and a repeat hypocount check done in half an hour.
16. Electroencephalography is a diagnostic test for epilepsy.
17. A two-year-old child presented with a fever of 38.5°C and a generalised seizure that had been going on for five minutes. Are these statements true or false?
   (a) The child should be placed in a prone position.  
   (b) She requires supplemental oxygen.  
   (c) You should give her rectal diazepam 0.4 mg/kg, which can be repeated once if the seizure does not stop.  
   (d) Refer the patient to a general neurology clinic if the seizure has aborted and she is well.

Doctor’s particulars:
Name in full: __________________________________________ MCR no.: __________________________________________
Specialty: __________________________________________ Email: __________________________________________

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:
Visit the SMJ website: http://www.smj.org.sg/current-issue and select the appropriate quiz. You will be redirected to the SMA login page.
For SMA member: (1) Log in with your username and password (if you do not know your password, please click on ‘Forgot your password!’). (2) Select your answers for each quiz and click ‘Submit’.
For non-SMA member: (1) Create an SMJ CME account, or log in with your SMJ CME username and password (for returning users). (2) Make payment of SGD 21.40 (inclusive of 7% GST) via PayPal to access this month’s quizzes. (3) Select your answers for each quiz and click ‘Submit’.

RESULTS:
(1) Answers will be published online in the SMJ February 2021 issue. (2) The MCR numbers of successful candidates will be posted online at the SMJ website by 8 February 2021. (3) Passing mark is 60%. No mark will be deducted for incorrect answers. (4) The SMJ editorial office will submit the list of successful candidates to the Singapore Medical Council. (5) One CME point is awarded for successful candidates. (6) SMC credits CME points according to the month of publication of the CME article (i.e. points awarded for a quiz published in the December 2020 issue will be credited for the month of December 2020, even if the deadline is in February 2021).