

GCSE Biology B (Twenty First Century Science)
J257/03 Breadth in Biology (Higher)

Question Set 5

1 Cancer is a non communicable disease.

(a) (i) Describe what causes cancer. [2]

(ii) Identify **one** factor that could increase a person's risk of developing cancer. [1]

(iii) In the past it has been estimated that 1 in 3 people will develop cancer in their lifetime.

Recent estimates suggest the ratio is 1 in 2.

The UK population is 65 640 000.

If the **recent estimate** is correct, how many people can be expected to develop cancer?

Give your answer to **2** significant figures.

(iv) Suggest why the figure calculated in (a)(iii) will be an estimation. [2]

(b) Cancer of the ovaries is a common type of cancer. Most women diagnosed with cancer of the ovaries will have an operation to remove their ovaries. [1]

(i) Before the operation, the doctor will discuss the risks of the operation with the patient. This is a high risk operation.

Suggest why a patient would decide to go ahead with this operation. [1]

After surgery, the patient may have chemotherapy to kill any remaining cancer cells.

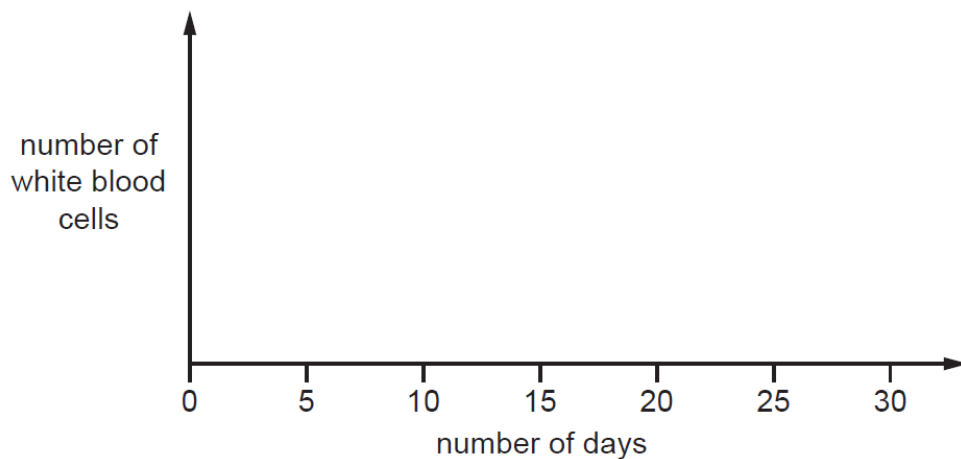
Chemotherapy also kills white blood cells.

A doctor describes this effect to the patient.

The chemotherapy will last 3 weeks. It will kill the cancer cells and also some of your white blood cells. The white blood cells will fall in number between days 7 and 14 of the treatment. They will be at their lowest on or around day 14. By the end of the treatment they should have returned to normal levels.



- (ii) Draw a line graph on the axes below to show what happens to the number of white blood cells during each cycle of chemotherapy.



[2]

- (iii) During the chemotherapy treatment, the patient is advised to seek urgent medical attention if they become ill and have a raised temperature.

Suggest between which days the patient is most at risk of becoming ill.

Use data from the graph in your answer.

[1]

- (iv) Why is a high temperature in the human body a problem?

[3]

(c) New drugs and treatments have to go through rigorous clinical trials.

A clinical trial was conducted to see if using a particular combination of chemotherapy drugs increased survival rates for a type of cancer of the ovaries.

The two drug combinations being tested were:

- drugs 1 and 2
- drugs 3 and 4.

(i) The table shows some details of the clinical trial design.

Use your knowledge of clinical trials to justify each part of the design.

Design	Justification
Only women took part in the trial.	
All women who took part in the trial had ovarian cancer.	
A placebo was not used.	
An open trial was conducted.	

[4]

The results of the trial are shown in the table.

	Group A (Drugs 1 and 2)	Group B (Drugs 3 and 4)
Number of women who took part in the trial.	305	314
Number of women who were still alive two years after treatment.	247	222
Most severe side effects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A drop in total blood cell number• Nerve damage• Joint pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss of appetite• Diarrhoea• Feeling or being sick• High temperature• Low white blood cell number

(ii) Use the information in the table to recommend which drug combination the doctors should use.

Justify your decision.

[2]

(iii) Explain why scientists should communicate findings such as these to a range of audiences.

[1]

(d) Scientists have been developing the use of monoclonal antibodies in cancer treatment.

Monoclonal antibodies specific to a cancer cell antigen are produced and are injected into the blood of a cancer patient.

Describe how monoclonal antibodies are used to treat cancer.

[3]

Total Marks for Question Set 5: 23

OCR

Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Copyright Information

OCR is committed to seeking permission to reproduce all third-party content that it uses in its assessment materials. OCR has attempted to identify and contact all copyright holders whose work is used in this paper. To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced in the OCR Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download from our public website (www.ocr.org.uk) after the live examination series.

If OCR has unwittingly failed to correctly acknowledge or clear any third-party content in this assessment material, OCR will be happy to correct its mistake at the earliest possible opportunity.

For queries or further information please contact The OCR Copyright Team, The Triangle Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA.

OCR is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group; Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge