

# BLOCK Q OSPE

## Complete Exam-Style Guide – 54 Stations

STATIC STATIONS = “DIAGNOSIS → INVESTIGATIONS → MANAGEMENT → COMPLICATIONS”

**Includes:** Medicine | Surgery | Paediatrics | Neurosurgery/Neuro | Psychiatry

**How to use:** Read the “Scenario Given” first, then answer in the order shown.

Tip: In OSPE, examiners often jump to “complication” or “next investigation” randomly. Use the “Viva Rapid-Fire” box.

Crafted with ❤️ Noaman Khan Musakhel

# STATION 1 – MEDICINE STATIC

CT Brain – Ischemic Stroke

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## SCENARIO GIVEN

Non-contrast CT Brain shown on station. You are asked to:

- State the **main CT findings** and **vascular territory**.
- Give the **most likely diagnosis**.
- List **investigations** (urgent + secondary).
- Give **stepwise management** (acute + secondary prevention).
- List **complications**.

## KEY CT FINDINGS

### Early (0–6h)

- **Hyperdense MCA sign** (acute thrombus).
- **Loss of insular ribbon** (MCA).
- **Obscuration of lentiform nucleus**.
- **Sulcal effacement** (edema).

### Established (>6h)

- **Hypodensity** in a vascular territory.
- **Loss of grey–white differentiation**.
- **Mass effect** / midline shift (large infarct).
- **Hemorrhagic transformation** (patchy hyperdensity) is a red flag.

**Territory clues:** MCA (lateral hemisphere, basal ganglia/internal capsule), ACA (medial frontal/parietal), PCA (occipital/medial temporal), posterior circulation (brainstem/cerebellum).

## EXPECTED DIAGNOSIS

**Acute ischemic stroke** (likely MCA territory unless otherwise stated).

Always state: “Non-contrast CT shows no acute bleed → eligible for ischemic stroke pathway, then confirm LVO on CTA if indicated.”

## INVESTIGATIONS

### Immediate (do not delay reperfusion)

- RBS (rule out hypoglycemia), temperature.
- BP, ECG (AF), SpO<sub>2</sub>.
- Baseline labs: FBC, U&E, creatinine, PT/INR, aPTT (esp. anticoagulants), troponin if indicated.
- **CT angiography** head/neck (suspected large vessel occlusion) ± CT perfusion if protocol.

### Secondary work-up

- Carotid Doppler (if not already by CTA).
- Echocardiography (cardioembolic source) if indicated.
- Lipid profile, HbA1c.
- Swallow assessment (before oral intake).

## MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

### Step 1: Stabilize

- ABC, oxygen only if hypoxic, IV access, NPO until swallow screen.
- Control fever, treat hypoglycemia/hyperglycemia.

#### Step 2: Reperfusion decision

- **IV thrombolysis** if within 4.5 hours and no contraindication (BP target <185/110 before thrombolysis).
- **Mechanical thrombectomy** for LVO within 6 hours (and selected patients up to 24 hours per imaging/criteria).

#### Step 3: Antithrombotics

- If thrombolysed: no antiplatelet/anticoagulant for first 24h; repeat CT then start aspirin.
- If not thrombolysed: aspirin early after CT excludes bleed.
- AF: anticoagulate later (timing depends on infarct size; avoid immediate in large infarcts).

#### Step 4: Prevent complications

- DVT prophylaxis (early mobilization; pharmacologic after bleed excluded and stable).
- Aspiration precautions, chest physio if needed.
- Manage raised ICP in malignant MCA infarct (neuro referral, consider decompressive hemicraniectomy in selected).

#### Step 5: Secondary prevention

- High-intensity statin, BP control, diabetes control, smoking cessation.
- Rehab: physiotherapy, OT, speech therapy.

## COMPLICATIONS

- **Hemorrhagic transformation** (worsening headache, decline).
- Cerebral edema, herniation, seizures.
- Aspiration pneumonia, DVT/PE, pressure sores.
- Long-term: spasticity, depression, cognitive decline.

## VIVA RAPID-FIRE

- "First imaging?" → **Non-contrast CT brain**.
- "Hyperdense MCA sign means?" → **Thrombus** in MCA.
- "When to do thrombectomy?" → **LVO** + within time window + suitable imaging.
- "Big mistake?" → Giving thrombolysis without excluding bleed; or missing hemorrhagic transformation.

# STATION 2 – MEDICINE STATIC

CT Brain – Hemorrhagic Stroke (ICH)

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## SCENARIO GIVEN

Non-contrast CT shows intracerebral hemorrhage. You must describe:

- Site (basal ganglia / thalamus / lobar / cerebellar / brainstem)
- Mass effect, midline shift, IVH, hydrocephalus
- Diagnosis, urgent investigations, stepwise management, complications

## KEY CT FINDINGS

- **Acute blood = hyperdense** (bright white) on non-contrast CT.
- **Basal ganglia** (hypertensive bleed commonest): putamen/capsule region.
- **Lobar bleed**: consider amyloid angiopathy, AVM, tumor, anticoagulants.
- **IVH** (blood in ventricles) and **hydrocephalus** worsen prognosis.
- **Cerebellar bleed** with hydrocephalus = emergency decompression/EVD consideration.

## EXPECTED DIAGNOSIS

**Intracerebral hemorrhage (hemorrhagic stroke)** ± intraventricular extension.

## INVESTIGATIONS

### Immediate

- Airway, vitals, GCS, pupils.
- FBC, U&E, glucose, coagulation profile.
- Type & screen/crossmatch if large bleed.
- ECG.

### Cause evaluation

- **CTA/CT venography** if young, lobar, atypical site, suspected AVM/aneurysm/venous thrombosis.
- Toxicology/medication review (anticoagulants, antiplatelets).

## MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

### Step 1: Stabilize

- ABC, head-up 30°, manage airway if GCS  $\leq 8$ .
- Control fever, glucose, treat seizures if present.

### Step 2: BP control

- Target systolic often around **140–160** depending on protocol and perfusion; avoid rapid overcorrection.

### Step 3: Reverse anticoagulation

- Warfarin: **PCC + vitamin K**.
- DOACs: specific reversal if available (institutional).

- Platelet issue: treat thrombocytopenia as per protocol.

#### Step 4: Neurosurgical decision

- Cerebellar hemorrhage with deterioration/hydrocephalus → urgent decompression.
- Hydrocephalus/IVH + low consciousness → consider **EVD**.
- Lobar superficial hematoma + worsening → selected evacuation.

#### Step 5: ICU monitoring

- Neuro observations, manage raised ICP if present.
- DVT prophylaxis timing as per stability and neurosurgical advice.

## COMPLICATIONS

- Hematoma expansion (first 24h), raised ICP, herniation.
- Seizures, aspiration pneumonia.
- Hydrocephalus (especially with IVH).
- Long-term disability, depression.

## VIVA RAPID-FIRE

- "Bright white on CT = ?" → **Acute bleed**.
- "Most common site in HTN?" → **Basal ganglia (putamen)**.
- "Key first step?" → **ABC + BP control + reversal**.

# STATION 3 – SURGERY STATIC

X-ray Abdomen – Intestinal Obstruction

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## SCENARIO GIVEN

Supine/erect abdominal X-ray shown. You are asked:

- Give **radiological findings**.
- State **diagnosis** (SBO vs LBO, simple vs strangulated).
- List **investigations**.
- Give **stepwise management**.
- List **complications**.

## KEY X-RAY FINDINGS

### SBO

- Central dilated loops >3 cm.
- **Valvulae conniventes** cross entire lumen.
- Multiple air-fluid levels (erect): "stepladder".
- Little/absent colonic gas.

### LBO

- Peripheral dilated colon.
- **Haustra** do not cross lumen.
- Cecum >9 cm = perforation risk.
- Volvulus: "coffee bean" (sigmoid).

**Red flags for strangulation/ischemia:** severe pain, fever, tachycardia, peritonitis, leukocytosis, metabolic acidosis, persistent localized tenderness.

## EXPECTED DIAGNOSIS

**Intestinal obstruction** (state SBO/LBO) and add: "simple vs strangulated" if clues suggest ischemia.

## INVESTIGATIONS

### Bedside + labs

- Vitals, urine output (Foley).
- FBC, U&E, CRP, lactate/ABG (ischemia), group & save.

### Imaging

- **CT abdomen with contrast** = best to find transition point, ischemia, closed-loop.
- AXR is screening only; do not stop there if unwell.

## MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

### Step 1: Resuscitate

- ABC, NPO, large-bore IV access, IV crystalloids.
- NG tube decompression if vomiting/distension.
- Analgesia + antiemetic, correct electrolytes.

### Step 2: Decide conservative vs operative

- **Conservative** (adhesive partial SBO, stable, no peritonitis): NG, fluids, serial exams, input/output charting, repeat imaging if needed.
- **Operate urgently** if: peritonitis, strangulation, closed-loop, complete obstruction, worsening vitals/lactate, or failure of conservative management (usually 48–72h).

### Step 3: Definitive

- SBO: adhesiolysis, hernia repair, resection if ischemic bowel.
- LBO: treat cause (tumor resection/stent, volvulus decompression then definitive surgery).

## COMPLICATIONS

- Bowel ischemia/necrosis, perforation, sepsis.
- Electrolyte derangements, aspiration.
- Short bowel syndrome (after resection), recurrence (adhesions).

## VIVA RAPID-FIRE

- “Best test to find transition point?” → **CT abdomen with contrast.**
- “Cecum danger size?” → **>9 cm.**
- “Absolute indication for surgery?” → **Peritonitis/strangulation.**

# STATION 4 – NEUROSURGERY STATIC

CT Head – Depressed Skull Fracture

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## SCENARIO GIVEN

CT head displayed. You must:

- Describe fracture type and depth.
- Look for associated intracranial injuries (contusion, EDH/SDH, pneumocephalus).
- Give diagnosis, investigations, stepwise management, complications.

## KEY CT FINDINGS

- **Depressed fracture:** inner table displaced inward (“punched-in”).
- **Open fracture/contamination:** scalp laceration + air pockets.
- **Pneumocephalus:** suggests dural tear.
- Always assess for **EDH** (biconvex), **SDH** (crescent), contusions.
- Basilar signs: consider CSF rhinorrhea/otorrhea, Battle sign, raccoon eyes (clinical).

## EXPECTED DIAGNOSIS

**Depressed skull fracture** ± dural tear ± intracranial hematoma (state what you see).

## INVESTIGATIONS

- ATLS primary survey + GCS.
- CT head (already), consider CT cervical spine if trauma.
- FBC, coagulation profile, group & save.
- Consider CT angiography if vascular injury suspected (mechanism/site).

## MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

### Step 1: Stabilize

- Airway protection if low GCS, control bleeding, analgesia.
- Head elevation, treat raised ICP if signs.

### Step 2: Antibiotics + tetanus (if open)

- Broad coverage per protocol, tetanus prophylaxis.

### Step 3: Neurosurgical decision

- **Operate** if: open fracture, depression deeper than skull thickness, dural tear/CSF leak, pneumocephalus with contamination, neurological deficit, significant cosmetic deformity, underlying hematoma needing evacuation.
- Procedure: elevation, debridement, dural repair, evacuation if needed.

#### Step 4: Observe (selected)

- Closed, minimal depression, no deficit, clean wound → observe with neuro checks.

## COMPLICATIONS

- Seizures, intracranial infection (meningitis/abscess), CSF leak.
- EDH/SDH, contusion progression, raised ICP.
- Cosmetic deformity, post-traumatic epilepsy.

## VIVA RAPID-FIRE

- "Air inside skull on CT?" → **Pneumocephalus** (dural tear).
- "When to operate?" → **Open + dural tear + deep depression + deficit.**

# STATION 5 – NEUROSURGERY STATIC

CT Head – Extradural (Epidural) Hematoma

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## SCENARIO GIVEN

CT head displayed. You are asked:

- Describe the collection and mass effect.
- Give diagnosis, investigations, stepwise management, complications.

## KEY CT FINDINGS

- **Biconvex / lens-shaped** hyperdense collection.
- **Does not cross suture lines** (dural attachment).
- Often temporal region with skull fracture (middle meningeal artery).
- Signs of raised ICP: midline shift, ventricular compression.
- **Swirl sign** may suggest active bleeding (mixed density).

## EXPECTED DIAGNOSIS

**Epidural (extradural) hematoma** causing mass effect.

## INVESTIGATIONS

- ATLS + repeated neuro obs, GCS trend.
- Coagulation profile, group & save.
- Consider CT C-spine if trauma context.

## MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

### Step 1: Stabilize

- ABC, intubate if GCS  $\leq 8$  or deteriorating.
- Head up 30°, manage hypotension/hypoxia aggressively.

### Step 2: Treat impending herniation (temporary)

- Hypertonic saline or mannitol if clinical herniation signs (as per protocol).
- Short-term hyperventilation only as a bridge (specialist-led).

### Step 3: Definitive neurosurgery

- **Urgent craniotomy** and evacuation + control bleeding source.
- Reverse anticoagulation if present.

## COMPLICATIONS

- Uncal herniation (CN III palsy), brainstem compression, death.
- Seizures, recurrence/expansion, infection.

## VIVA RAPID-FIRE

- "Classic story?" → LOC → lucid interval → deterioration (not always present).
- "Shape?" → **Biconvex**.
- "Emergency treatment?" → **Craniotomy**.

# STATION 6 – MEDICINE INTERACTIVE

## Lower Limb Motor Examination

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#### CANDIDATE INSTRUCTIONS

Perform a complete lower limb motor examination in an OSPE style: inspection → tone → power (MRC) → reflexes → plantar → coordination. State findings and localize (UMN vs LMN).

#### STEPWISE EXAMINATION

- **Introduce, consent, expose** (hips to feet), pain check.
- **Inspection:** wasting, fasciculations, scars, posture, foot drop.
- **Tone:** hip/knee/ankle passive movement (spasticity vs rigidity).
- **Power (MRC 0–5):**
  - Hip flexion (L2–3), hip extension (L5–S1)
  - Knee extension (L3–4), knee flexion (L5–S1)
  - Ankle dorsiflexion (L4–5), plantarflexion (S1–2)
  - Great toe extension (L5)
- **Reflexes:** knee (L3–4), ankle (S1–2), clonus.
- **Plantar:** Babinski.
- **Coordination:** heel–shin.

#### SPECIAL SIGNS

- **Clonus** + hyperreflexia = UMN.
- **Fasciculations** + wasting = LMN.
- **Foot drop** suggests common peroneal nerve palsy or L5 radiculopathy.

#### LOCALIZATION SUMMARY

**UMN:** spasticity, hyperreflexia, clonus, upgoing plantar, minimal wasting.  
**LMN:** hypotonia, hyporeflexia, wasting, fasciculations, downgoing plantar.

# STATION 7 – MEDICINE INTERACTIVE

Lower Limb Neurological Examination (Motor + Sensory + Gait)

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## CANDIDATE INSTRUCTIONS

Perform a complete lower limb neurological exam: motor, reflexes, sensory modalities, coordination, and gait. End with a clear localization and differential.

## STEPWISE EXAMINATION

- **Motor:** (as Station 6) tone, power, reflexes, plantar.
- **Sensory:**
  - Light touch + pinprick (dermatomes L2–S1)
  - Vibration (128 Hz tuning fork): great toe → malleolus → tibial tuberosity
  - Proprioception: great toe up/down
- **Coordination:** heel–shin, rapid foot tapping.
- **Gait:** normal, heel walk (L4/5), toe walk (S1), tandem gait.
- **Romberg:** sensory ataxia vs cerebellar.

## SPECIAL SIGNS & INTERPRETATION

- **Positive Romberg** = proprioceptive/vestibular problem (sensory ataxia), not pure cerebellar.
- **Stocking-glove loss** = peripheral neuropathy.
- **Dermatomal pain + weakness** = radiculopathy.
- **Saddle anesthesia + urinary retention** = cauda equina (emergency).

## CLOSE THE STATION

"I would also examine upper limbs, cranial nerves, and do a full spine exam, and check blood glucose/B12/thyroid depending on suspicion."

# STATION 8 – SURGERY INTERACTIVE

Abdominal Examination (Full OSPE Sequence)

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## CANDIDATE INSTRUCTIONS

Perform a complete abdominal exam: inspection → palpation (light/deep) → percussion → auscultation, then relevant special tests and summary.

## STEPWISE EXAMINATION

- **Introduce, consent, position** (supine, knees flexed), expose from xiphisternum to pubis.
- **Inspection:** scars, distension, visible peristalsis, hernias, stomas, caput medusae.
- **Palpation:**
  - Light palpation all quadrants for tenderness/guarding.
  - Deep palpation for masses (note site, size, surface, mobility, pulsatility).
  - Liver edge, spleen, kidneys (bimanual), aorta.
- **Percussion:** liver span, splenic dullness, shifting dullness (ascites).
- **Auscultation:** bowel sounds, bruits (aorta/renal/femoral).

## SPECIAL SIGNS (HIGH-YIELD)

- **Murphy sign** (acute cholecystitis).
- **Rovsing / Psoas / Obturator** (appendicitis).
- **Fluid thrill + shifting dullness** (ascites).
- **Courvoisier sign** (painless jaundice with palpable gallbladder).

## END SUMMARY

“On examination, the abdomen is ... (soft/tender/distended). I found ... (mass/organomegaly/ascites). I would complete by examining the hernial orifices, external genitalia if indicated, and do a PR exam.”

# STATION 9 – MEDICINE INTERACTIVE

General Physical Examination (GPE) + Relevant Systemic

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## CANDIDATE INSTRUCTIONS

Perform a focused GPE as in OSPE: appearance, vitals, hands, face, neck, chest, abdomen (brief), legs. Mention relevant exams depending on suspected disease.

## STEPWISE GPE

- **General:** conscious level, distress, body build, hydration.
- **Vitals:** pulse, BP, RR, temp, SpO<sub>2</sub>.
- **Hands:** clubbing, cyanosis, tremor, nicotine stains, palmar erythema.
- **Face:** pallor, jaundice, xanthelasma, malar rash, Cushingoid features.
- **Neck:** JVP, lymph nodes, thyroid.
- **Chest:** brief cardio-respiratory screen if needed.
- **Legs:** edema, DVT signs, pulses.

## HIGH-YIELD “SPOT” SIGNS

- **Koilonychia** (iron deficiency), **Asterixis** (hepatic encephalopathy), **Kussmaul breathing** (metabolic acidosis).
- **Osler nodes/Janeway lesions** (endocarditis).

# STATION 10 – TRAUMA/NEURO INTERACTIVE

ATLS Protocols + Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS)

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## ATLS PRIMARY SURVEY (ABCDE)

- **A**irway + C-spine protection (jaw thrust, collar).
- **B**reathing (inspect, auscultate, treat tension pneumothorax).
- **C**irculation (control hemorrhage, IV fluids/blood).
- **D**isability (GCS, pupils, glucose).
- **E**xposure (fully expose, prevent hypothermia).

## GCS SCORING

**Eyes (E):** 4 Spontaneous | 3 To voice | 2 To pain | 1 None

**Verbal (V):** 5 Oriented | 4 Confused | 3 Inappropriate words | 2 Sounds | 1 None

**Motor (M):** 6 Obeys | 5 Localizes | 4 Withdraws | 3 Abnormal flexion | 2 Extension | 1 None

**Interpretation:** ≤8 severe (airway risk), 9–12 moderate, 13–15 mild.

## CUSHING TRIAD (RAISED ICP) – LINK

Hypertension + bradycardia + irregular breathing = late sign of raised ICP (see Station 35).

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# STATION 11 – PSYCHIATRY STATIC

Schizophrenia Scenario (Diagnosis + Treatment + Non-compliance)

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## SCENARIO GIVEN

A patient with abnormal behavior, hearing voices, suspiciousness, social withdrawal. Examiner asks diagnosis, differentials, treatment plan, and what to do if non-compliant.

## EXPECTED DIAGNOSIS

**Schizophrenia spectrum disorder** (if  $\geq 6$  months with functional decline) or **schizophreniform** (1–6 months).

## KEY FEATURES & SPECIAL POINTS

- **Positive:** hallucinations (usually auditory), delusions, disorganized speech/behavior.
- **Negative:** flat affect, alogia, avolition, anhedonia.
- **First-rank symptoms:** thought insertion/withdrawal, running commentary, voices arguing.

## INVESTIGATIONS

Rule out organic/substance:

- RBS, TFTs, B12/folate if indicated; urine toxicology.
- Consider CT/MRI brain if atypical onset, focal neuro signs, late onset.

## MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

- Step 1** Safety: suicide/violence risk, consider inpatient admission if high risk.
- Step 2** Antipsychotic: start atypical (e.g., risperidone/olanzapine) as per local protocol, monitor metabolic profile.
- Step 3** Psychosocial: psychoeducation, CBTp, family intervention, rehabilitation, substance cessation.
- Step 4** Non-compliance: consider **long-acting injectable** (depot), simplify regimen, involve family.
- Step 5** Treatment resistant: consider **clozapine** with blood monitoring.

## COMPLICATIONS

Relapse, self-harm, substance misuse, metabolic syndrome (treatment), social/occupational decline.



# STATION 12 – PSYCHIATRY STATIC

Depression Scenario (Diagnosis + Treatment + Organic Causes)

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## SCENARIO GIVEN

Patient with low mood, anhedonia, sleep/appetite change. Examiner asks: diagnosis, screening, organic causes, management, suicide risk.

## DIAGNOSIS & CRITERIA

**Major Depressive Episode** if  $\geq 2$  weeks of depressed mood/anhedonia + other symptoms with functional impairment.

## SYMPTOMS CHECKLIST (SIGECAPS)

**S**leep | **I**nterest loss | **G**uilt | **E**nergy | **C**oncentration | **A**ppetite | **P**sychemotor | **S**uicidality

## INVESTIGATIONS (ORGANIC CAUSES)

- Hypothyroidism, anemia, B12 deficiency, diabetes, Cushing's, chronic infection, medications (steroids, interferon), substance use.
- Suggested baseline: FBC, TFTs, B12/folate, RBS/HbA1c; others if indicated.

## MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

- Step 1** Risk assess (suicide/self-harm). If high risk: urgent senior review, consider inpatient care.
- Step 2** Mild: psychoeducation, sleep hygiene, structured activity, CBT/therapy.
- Step 3** Moderate–severe: add SSRI (first-line) + psychotherapy; review side effects and onset delay (2–4 weeks).
- Step 4** Resistant/psychotic/catatonia: specialist referral; consider augmentation or **ECT** if urgent.

## COMPLICATIONS

Suicide, functional impairment, relapse, substance misuse, poor adherence.

# STATION 13 – PAEDIATRICS STATIC

Kwashiorkor Photo (Diagnosis + Management + Complications)

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## SCENARIO GIVEN

Photo of child with edema and skin/hair changes. Questions: diagnosis, key signs, management steps, complications.

## EXPECTED DIAGNOSIS

**Kwashiorkor (edematous severe acute malnutrition).**

## KEY SIGNS (SPOTTERS)

- **Bilateral pitting edema** (most important).
- **Flaky paint dermatosis** (hyperpigmentation + desquamation).
- **Flag sign hair** (discolored bands), sparse hair.
- Hepatomegaly (fatty liver), apathy, infections.

## MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

### Step 1: Stabilize

- Treat/prevent hypoglycemia, hypothermia.
- Treat dehydration carefully (oral/NG; avoid overload).
- Empiric antibiotics (high infection risk).

### Step 2: Start feeding

- Start with low-protein, low-sodium starter feed (e.g., F-75), small frequent feeds.
- Correct electrolytes (K, Mg), give vitamins and micronutrients.

### Step 3: Rehabilitation

- Transition to catch-up feeds (F-100/RUTF), stimulate play, caregiver education.

### Step 4: Follow-up

- Growth monitoring, address underlying social causes, immunizations.

## COMPLICATIONS

Sepsis, hypoglycemia, electrolyte imbalance, heart failure (if fluid overload), mortality risk.

# STATION 14 – MEDICINE STATIC

Ischemic Stroke (Clinical Diagnosis + Disability Control)

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## SCENARIO GIVEN

Patient with sudden focal neurological deficit (FAST). Examiner asks diagnosis, investigations, acute management, disability prevention and rehab.

## DIAGNOSIS

**Acute ischemic stroke** until proven otherwise; rule out hemorrhage by CT.

## INVESTIGATIONS

CT brain (urgent), ECG for AF, glucose, FBC/U&E/coag, CTA if LVO suspected, swallow assessment.

## MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

Stabilize → thrombolysis/thrombectomy eligibility → antiplatelets/statin → DVT prophylaxis → rehab + secondary prevention.

## DISABILITY CONTROL / REHAB

Early mobilization, physio/OT/speech, treat spasticity, screen depression, caregiver training, prevent aspiration/pressure sores.

# STATION 15 – SURGERY STATIC

Per Rectum Bleeding – Causes (Differential)

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## SCENARIO GIVEN

Examiner asks: common causes of PR bleeding and how you differentiate by history/exam.

## DIFFERENTIAL (HIGH-YIELD)

- **Bright red:** hemorrhoids, fissure, proctitis, rectal cancer.
- **Mixed with stool:** colorectal cancer, IBD, polyps.
- **Dark/maroon:** proximal colon, small bowel.
- **Massive painless:** diverticular bleed, angiodysplasia.

## WORK-UP

Vitals, DRE/proctoscopy, FBC, coagulation, colonoscopy (stable), CT angiography if ongoing severe bleed.

# STATION 16 – SURGERY STATIC

Acute Appendicitis Scoring System

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## KEY SCORE

### Alvarado Score (MANTRELS):

- Migration of pain (1)
- Anorexia (1)
- Nausea/vomiting (1)
- Tenderness RIF (2)
- Rebound/guarding (1)
- Elevated temperature (1)
- Leukocytosis (2)
- Shift to left (1)

High score suggests appendicitis; correlate clinically and with imaging.

## SPECIAL SIGNS

Rovsing, Psoas, Obturator; McBurney tenderness.

# STATION 17 – SURGERY STATIC

Inguinal Hernia Scenario (Diagnosis + Definitive Management)

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## DIAGNOSIS & DIFFERENTIALS

- **Indirect inguinal hernia:** through deep ring, may reach scrotum, common in young.
- **Direct:** through Hesselbach triangle, older age, rarely scrotal.
- Differentials: hydrocele, lymphadenopathy, femoral hernia, varicocele.

## MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

Reduce if uncomplicated and possible; assess for obstruction/strangulation.

- Elective: mesh repair (herniorrhaphy) depending on case.
- Emergency: if strangulated/obstructed → urgent surgery.

## COMPLICATIONS

Obstruction, strangulation, recurrence, chronic pain (post-repair).

# STATION 18 – PAEDIATRICS STATIC

Necrotizing Enterocolitis (NEC) Scenario

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## KEY DIAGNOSIS POINTS

Premature neonate, abdominal distension, feed intolerance, blood in stool. X-ray: **pneumatosis intestinalis** (pathognomonic) ± portal venous gas.

## MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

NPO + NG decompression → IV fluids/TPN → broad-spectrum antibiotics → serial abdominal exams/X-rays → surgery if perforation/necrosis.

## COMPLICATIONS

Perforation, sepsis, strictures, short bowel syndrome.

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# STATION 19 – MEDICINE STATIC

Celiac Disease – Counseling Station (Exam Instructions)

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## WHAT YOU MUST TELL THE PATIENT

- **Explain diagnosis simply:** immune reaction to gluten damages small intestine.
- **Strict gluten-free diet for life:** avoid wheat, barley, rye. Safe: rice, corn, quinoa; only certified gluten-free oats.
- **Check labels:** sauces, processed foods, medications may contain gluten.
- **Correct deficiencies:** iron, folate, B12, vitamin D/calcium.
- **Follow-up:** tTG-IgA trend, growth (children), bone density when appropriate.
- **Family screening** if symptoms or high risk.

## COMPLICATIONS (IF NON-ADHERENT)

Malnutrition, anemia, osteoporosis, infertility, lymphoma risk, neuropathy.

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# STATION 20 – SURGERY STATIC

Spinal Needle / LP Needle (Identification + Uses + Complications)

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## WHAT YOU SAY IN THE STATION

- Identify: **Quincke (cutting)** vs **Whitacre/Sprotte (pencil-point)**.
- Uses: spinal anesthesia, diagnostic LP (meningitis, SAH), intrathecal meds.
- Site: L3–4 or L4–5 (iliac crest line = L4).

## CONTRAINDICATIONS

Raised ICP/mass lesion, local infection, coagulopathy/low platelets, unstable patient.

## COMPLICATIONS

Post-dural puncture headache, bleeding/hematoma, infection, nerve irritation, herniation (if raised ICP).

# STATION 21 – MEDICINE STATIC

Viral Meningitis Scenario

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## DIAGNOSIS CLUES

Headache, fever, neck stiffness but usually less toxic than bacterial; CSF: lymphocytes, normal glucose, mildly raised protein.

## INVESTIGATIONS

LP (after ruling out raised ICP), CSF PCR, FBC/CRP, blood cultures if febrile, consider CT brain if red flags.

## MANAGEMENT

Supportive (fluids, analgesia). If HSV encephalitis suspected: start acyclovir urgently.

## COMPLICATIONS

Seizures (rare), dehydration, encephalitis if HSV.

# STATION 22 – SURGERY STATIC

X-ray – Intestinal Perforation (Free Air)

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## SCENARIO GIVEN

Erect chest/abdominal X-ray shows free air under diaphragm. Questions: findings, diagnosis, urgent management, complications.

## KEY X-RAY FINDINGS

- **Pneumoperitoneum:** free air under diaphragm (right side easiest).
- Rigler sign (double wall) if large free air on supine film.
- Clinical correlation: sudden severe abdominal pain, rigid abdomen, peritonitis.

## MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

ABC → NPO → NG decompression → IV fluids → broad-spectrum antibiotics → urgent surgical consult → laparotomy/laparoscopy depending on cause.

## COMPLICATIONS

Sepsis, shock, abscess, multi-organ failure.

# STATION 23 – PAEDIATRICS STATIC

Diagnosis Spotters: Intussusception, Hirschsprung, Hydrocele

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## KEY SPOT DIAGNOSES

- **Intussusception:** colicky pain + vomiting + red currant jelly stool; sausage mass; US "target sign".
- **Hirschsprung:** delayed meconium, chronic constipation, abdominal distension; rectal exam explosive stool; biopsy shows aganglionosis.
- **Hydrocele:** scrotal swelling, transilluminates, above you can get fingers; differentiate from hernia.

## MANAGEMENT (ONE-LINERS)

Intussusception: air/contrast enema reduction; surgery if perforation/failed. Hirschsprung: surgical pull-through. Hydrocele: observe infant; surgery if persistent/communicating.

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# STATION 24 – SURGERY STATIC

Acute Cholecystitis (Signs + Management + Complications)

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## DIAGNOSIS CLUES

RUQ pain, fever, leukocytosis, nausea/vomiting, **Murphy sign**.

## INVESTIGATIONS

FBC, LFTs; **US abdomen** (gallstones, wall thickening, pericholecystic fluid). HIDA if uncertain.

## MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

NPO + IV fluids + analgesia → antibiotics → early laparoscopic cholecystectomy (preferred) or percutaneous cholecystostomy if unfit.

## COMPLICATIONS

Empyema, gangrene, perforation, pancreatitis, cholangitis, Mirizzi.

# STATION 25 – NEUROLOGY STATIC

Alzheimer Disease

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## KEY POINTS

Progressive memory loss + executive dysfunction; screen cognition; rule out reversible causes.

## INVESTIGATIONS

FBC, TFTs, B12, electrolytes; MRI/CT to exclude other causes.

## MANAGEMENT

Non-pharmacologic support, safety, caregiver support; cholinesterase inhibitors/memantine per stage.

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# STATION 26 – NEUROLOGY STATIC

Parkinson Disease

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## KEY FEATURES

Bradykinesia + rigidity + rest tremor, postural instability. Masked facies, shuffling gait.

## MANAGEMENT

Physio/OT, levodopa/carbidopa, dopamine agonists; manage non-motor symptoms.

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# STATION 27 – NEUROLOGY STATIC

Myasthenia Gravis

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## KEY FEATURES

Fluctuating fatigable weakness, ptosis/diplopia, bulbar symptoms. Improves with rest.

## INVESTIGATIONS

AChR antibodies, EMG, CT chest for thymoma.

## MANAGEMENT

Pyridostigmine, immunosuppression; crisis: ICU, IVIG/plasmapheresis.

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# STATION 28 – MEDICINE STATIC

Headache (Approach + Red Flags)

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## RED FLAGS

Sudden thunderclap, neuro deficit, fever/meningism, papilledema, immunosuppressed, age >50 new headache, cancer history.

## CORE WORK-UP

Vitals, neuro exam, fundoscopy; imaging/LP based on red flags.

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# STATION 29 – MEDICINE STATIC

Epilepsy & Status Epilepticus

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## STATUS EPILEPTICUS – STEPWISE

- **0–5 min:** ABC, O<sub>2</sub>, IV access, glucose.
- **5–20 min:** benzodiazepine (e.g., lorazepam IV, repeat once).
- **20–40 min:** load antiseizure (levetiracetam/phenytoin/valproate per protocol).
- **>40 min:** ICU, intubate, infusion anesthetic (midazolam/propofol), EEG.

## COMPLICATIONS

Hypoxia, aspiration, rhabdomyolysis, acidosis, brain injury.

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# STATION 30 – PSYCHIATRY STATIC

Bipolar Disorder

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## KEY POINTS

Mania/hypomania episodes + depression. Treat acute mania and long-term mood stabilization.

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# STATION 31 – PSYCHIATRY STATIC

PTSD

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## KEY FEATURES

Re-experiencing, avoidance, hyperarousal, negative mood/cognition >1 month after trauma.

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# STATION 32 – MEDICINE STATIC

SLE and RA (Spot Differentiation)

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## KEY DIFFERENCES

- **RA:** symmetric small joint inflammatory arthritis, morning stiffness, RF/anti-CCP, erosions.
- **SLE:** multisystem (rash, oral ulcers, cytopenias, nephritis), ANA/anti-dsDNA, low complement.

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# STATION 33 – PSYCHIATRY STATIC

Acute Stress Disorder

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## KEY POINT

Similar to PTSD but duration 3 days to 1 month after trauma.

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# STATION 34 – MEDICINE STATIC

Subarachnoid Hemorrhage (SAH)

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## SCENARIO GIVEN

"Worst headache of life" sudden onset. Examiner asks diagnosis, investigations, management, complications.

## DIAGNOSIS

**SAH (usually aneurysmal)** until proven otherwise.

## INVESTIGATIONS

- **Non-contrast CT brain** first (best early).
- If CT negative but suspicion high: **LP** for xanthochromia (after appropriate timing/protocol).
- **CTA/MRA** to identify aneurysm.

## MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

Stabilize → BP control → **nimodipine** (vasospasm prevention) → neurosurgery for coiling/clipping → manage hydrocephalus (EVD if needed).

## COMPLICATIONS

Rebleeding, vasospasm (day 3–14), hydrocephalus, hyponatremia, seizures.

# STATION 35 – MEDICINE STATIC

Cushing Triad (Raised ICP)

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## WHAT IT MEANS

- **Hypertension** (widened pulse pressure)
- **Bradycardia**
- **Irregular respiration**

Late sign of raised ICP and impending herniation.

## IMMEDIATE MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

Head up 30° → maintain oxygenation and BP → treat cause → hypertonic saline/mannitol as per protocol → urgent neurosurgical review.

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# STATION 36 – PAEDIATRICS INTERACTIVE

Pediatric History + EPI Schedule + Lymph Node Examination

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## PEDIATRIC HISTORY (STRUCTURE)

Presenting complaint → HOPI → birth history → feeding → development milestones → immunization (EPI) → past illness/admissions → family history → social history.

## LYMPH NODES EXAM

Inspect and palpate systematically: pre/post-auricular, occipital, cervical chains, supraclavicular, axillary, epitrochlear, inguinal. Comment on size, tenderness, mobility, matted nodes.

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# STATION 37 – PAEDIATRICS STATIC

Child with Tonic-Clonic Seizures / Status Epilepticus

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## MANAGEMENT (STEPWISE)

ABC + glucose → benzodiazepine → load anticonvulsant → ICU + intubate if refractory; treat cause (fever, meningitis, electrolytes).

## INVESTIGATIONS

RBS, electrolytes, Ca/Mg, infection work-up; LP if meningitis suspected after stabilization.

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# STATION 38 – NEUROLOGY STATIC

Multiple Sclerosis Scenario

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## INVESTIGATIONS

MRI brain/spine (demyelinating lesions), CSF oligoclonal bands, evoked potentials.

## MANAGEMENT

Acute relapse steroids, disease-modifying therapy, rehab, symptomatic treatment.

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# STATION 39 – PSYCHIATRY STATIC

Antidepressants Classification

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## CLASSES

SSRIs, SNRIs, TCAs, MAOIs, atypical (mirtazapine, bupropion). Mention overdose risk (TCAs), serotonin syndrome, sexual side effects.

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# STATION 40 – PSYCHIATRY STATIC

Antipsychotic Classification

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## KEY SIDE EFFECTS

EPS, metabolic syndrome, hyperprolactinemia, QT prolongation, NMS. Clozapine: agranulocytosis, myocarditis (monitoring).

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# STATION 41–44 – PSYCHIATRY STATIC

Definitions: Hallucinations, Delusions, Depression, Anxiety

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## DEFINITIONS

Hallucination: perception without stimulus. Delusion: fixed false belief. Depression: persistent low mood/anhedonia. Anxiety: excessive worry + autonomic symptoms.

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# STATION 45 – SURGERY STATIC

Achalasia

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## DIAGNOSIS

Dysphagia to solids and liquids, regurgitation; barium "bird beak"; manometry = gold standard.

## MANAGEMENT

Pneumatic dilation, Heller myotomy + fundoplication, POEM; botox if unfit.

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# STATION 46 – SURGERY STATIC

Dysphagia (Approach)

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## KEY APPROACH

Oropharyngeal vs esophageal; solids then liquids (obstructive) vs both (motility). Red flags: weight loss, anemia, progressive.

## INVESTIGATIONS

Upper GI endoscopy first for red flags; barium swallow; manometry if motility.

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# STATION 47 – MEDICINE INTERACTIVE

Focused History: Coffee Ground Vomitus (Upper GI Bleed)

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## HISTORY CHECKLIST

Onset, amount, melena, dizziness/syncope, NSAIDs/aspirin, anticoagulants, liver disease/alcohol, prior ulcers, weight loss, chest pain, vomiting, pregnancy.

## IMMEDIATE MANAGEMENT (WHAT YOU MUST SAY)

ABC + IV access, resuscitate, crossmatch, PPI infusion, urgent endoscopy if unstable, treat cause.

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# STATION 48 – NEUROLOGY INTERACTIVE

Cranial Nerves V, VII, and X Examination

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## CN V (TRIGEMINAL)

Motor (mastication), sensory (V1–V3), corneal reflex (afferent V1), jaw jerk.

## CN VII (FACIAL)

Raise eyebrows, close eyes, smile, puff cheeks. UMN: forehead spared; LMN: whole face.

## CN X (VAGUS)

Say "Ahh" palatal rise, uvula deviation, gag reflex, voice quality.

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# STATION 49 – SURGERY STATIC

Lumbar Puncture Needle: Sites + Indications + Contraindications

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## KEY POINTS

Sites: L3–4 / L4–5. Indications: meningitis, SAH (if CT negative), demyelinating work-up. C/I: raised ICP, coagulopathy, local infection.

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# STATION 50 – MEDICINE STATIC

Liver Cirrhosis – Counseling Station (Exam Instructions)

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## WHAT YOU MUST TELL THE PATIENT

- **Stop alcohol completely** (most important).
- Low-salt diet if ascites; adequate protein unless encephalopathy severe.
- Avoid NSAIDs and hepatotoxic meds; avoid raw seafood.
- Vaccines: Hep A/B, flu, pneumococcal.
- Surveillance: US + AFP every 6 months; endoscopy for varices.
- Red flags: GI bleed, confusion, fever, increasing abdomen.

## COMPLICATIONS TO MENTION

Variceal bleed, ascites/SBP, encephalopathy, HRS, HCC.

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# STATION 51 – NEUROLOGY STATIC

Hydrocephalus Scenario (Types + Dx + Management)

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## KEY TYPES

Obstructive vs communicating. NPH triad: gait disturbance, dementia, urinary incontinence.

## MANAGEMENT

Treat cause; EVD for acute; VP shunt for long-term; NPH: tap test then shunt.

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# STATION 52 – PAEDIATRICS STATIC

Cellulitis / Carbuncle Scenario

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## KEY POINTS

Cellulitis: diffuse erythema, warmth, tenderness. Carbuncle: multiple draining points. Consider MRSA risk.

## MANAGEMENT

Antibiotics, analgesia; incision & drainage if abscess; monitor sepsis signs.

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# STATION 53 – PAEDIATRICS STATIC

Omphalocele (Types + Embryology + Management)

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## KEY FACTS

Midline defect with sac (amnion + Wharton jelly + peritoneum). Associated anomalies common (trisomies, cardiac).

## MANAGEMENT

Protect sac, NPO, IV fluids, antibiotics; staged vs primary closure; genetic evaluation.

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# STATION 54 – PSYCHIATRY STATIC

Psychomotor Treatment: ECT

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## INDICATIONS

Severe depression with suicidality/psychosis, catatonia, severe mania, treatment resistant depression.

## COMPLICATIONS

Headache, myalgia, transient memory impairment; rare prolonged seizure/arrhythmia.

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