

## Part III-Sample Items

The NBCE offers one example of each of the three types of items included in the Part III examination. It is NBCE's policy not to provide answers to the individual items.

### Traditional Multiple-Choice (TMCQ)

Which of the following is the chemical element symbol for gold?

- A: Au
- B: Gd
- C: Ag
- D: Pb

### Extended Multiple-Choice Case (EMCQ)

#### Patient Information

**Sex:** F      **Age:** 22      **Height:** 66 in /1.68 m      **Weight:** 140 lb  
**Pulse:** 70 bpm      **Resp:** 18/min      **Left BP:** 98/62 mmHg      **Temp:** 97.7 °F / 36.5 °C

#### Subjective Findings

**Chief Complaint:** constant moderate-severe, sharp, burning neck pain bilaterally but worse on left side; dull ache into suboccipital muscles and between the shoulder blades; headaches that begin in the suboccipital area but radiate into both eyes

**Onset:** rear-end automobile accident, with head turned to left at time of impact

**Quality of Pain:** sharp and burning in neck; dull ache in bilateral suboccipital area and mid-back

**Severity of Pain:** 3-6/10

**Aggravating Factors:** any neck motion, particularly extension

**Relieving Factors:** ice packs, ibuprofen, anti-anxiety medication

**Associated Symptoms:** can't sleep more than 2 hours without changing positions; chest pain

**Family History:** father had an MI at age 50

## **Objective Findings**

<b>Active Ranges of Motion:</b>	Cervical: flexion 46°, extension 26°, right rotation 68°, left rotation 40°, right lateral flexion 30°, left lateral flexion 22°; Lumbar: WNL
<b>Orthopedic Testing:</b>	cervical distraction decreases pain, left cervical compression causes local pain from C4-C7 on the left, right cervical compression causes local pain from C5-T1 on the left, Adson test reveals no loss of pulse and no paresthesia, Soto-Hall test increases neck and mid-back pain
<b>Laboratory Studies:</b>	elevated HCG, elevated CRP, hematocrit 41%
<b>Imaging Studies:</b>	moderately decreased cervical lordosis, normal vertebral body and disc heights, no prevertebral soft tissue swelling, 2mm anterolisthesis of C5 on C6 without translation on flexion/extension radiographs

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**Which of the following diagnoses are most likely?**

- A: cervicogenic headaches
- B: hemothorax
- C: cervical spine instability
- D: pregnancy
- E: thoracic outlet syndrome

## Diagnostic Imaging Interpretation (DXI)

A 70-year-old male presents with mid-back pain.



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**Identify the radiologic impression/condition present on the image provided.**

- A: Hodgkin lymphoma
- B: osteoblastic metastasis
- C: multiple myeloma
- D: Paget disease

*\*For additional guidance and study suggestions during your preparation for the actual NBCE examination, consult the current examination information brochure and [NBCE.org](http://NBCE.org) to review the Test Plan and the list of Reference Texts for this examination. The Test Plan includes the weighting and specific content categories.*