

Practice answers



Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
01.1	any disease of the heart or blood vessels		1	A01
				4.2.2.6
				MS 1c
01.2	22%		1	AO2
				4.2.2.5
				4.2.2.6
				MS 1c
01.3	33 000	award 1 mark for 0.22 × 150 000	2	AO2
				4.2.2.5
				4.2.2.6
01.4	any three suggestions + explanations from:	to award 6 marks, answers should include three lifestyle factors with three linked explanations. accept other acceptable answers with linked explanations	6	A01
	 eat fewer fatty foods – which would reduce the build-up of cholesterol which would lead to blocked arteries 			4.2.2.6
	 ensure energy input in food matches daily energy consumption / maintain a healthy weight – to prevent excess food being stored as fat 			
	 (if obese) exercise more / consume less food / energy than daily requirement – to lose excess weight 			
	 stop smoking / do not smoke – as smoking narrows blood vessels / damages artery lining / increases risk of clot formation / increases blood pressure 			

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02.1	a stent is a small mesh tube		1	AO1
	inserted into blood vessel		1	4.2.2.4
	blood vessel is enlarged/holds blood vessel open		1	
	blood flow through the blood vessel is increased.		1	
02.2	risks			AO3
	any two from:		2	4.2.2.4
	 complications may occur – bleeding / allergic reactions / irregular heartbeat 			
	arteries sometimes re-close			
	 patient needs to take blood thinning drugs 			
	benefits			
	any two from:		2	
	 long-term success rate is high 			
	 lowers the risk of a heart attack in people with coronary heart disease 			
	 lower risk of death / heart attack / stroke than receiving a bypass operation 			
02.3	patients dying following stent = 120	award 2 marks for 0.02 × 1250	1	AO2
	patients dying following bypass = 145	award 1 mark for 0.116 × 1250 or 0.096 × 1250	1	4.2.2.4
	difference = 25		1	4.2.2.5
				MS 4a

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03.1	 any two from: all risk factors show a decrease smoking levels have decreased the least (compared to 1972) the greatest decrease has been seen in people with cholesterol above recommended levels smoking has not shown a continual decline / increased in the 1990s 	accept other alternative trend from the data	2	AO2 4.2.2.4 4.2.2.5 4.2.2.6
03.2	 any four from: better education / positive results from public health campaigns (linked to any risk factor) meaning people make positive lifestyle choices better diet leading to reduced cholesterol / blood pressure (linked to any risk factor) (significantly) fewer deaths due to CVD because key risk factors for CVD have all reduced / improved healthcare 	answers should include two suggestions and two linked reasons to award 4 marks accept other reasonable suggestions with linked effects on lifestyle / mortality rates	4	AO3 4.2.2.4 4.2.2.5 4.2.2.6



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03.3	fatty material / cholesterol builds up in coronary arteries		1	A01
	reduces blood flow		1	4.2.2.4
	less oxygen / glucose reaches the heart muscle / less respiration of heart muscle cells.		1	
03.4	statins		1	A01
				4.2.2.2
03.5	130	accept proportion of deaths = 20% of 1972 level	3	AO3
		(650)		4.2.2.4
		award 2 marks for 0.2 × 650		4.2.2.5
				MS 1c
03.6	any three from:	accept other reasonable statement	3	AO3
	 data correlate with the conclusion, supporting the conclusion made 			4.2.2.4
	 data do not give causation 			
	 population studied may have been atypical 			
	 data are collected from one (isolated) population and so generalities may not be drawn to all populations 			
	 other risk / lifestyle factors were not noted which may have had an underlying effect on the outcomes 			

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Practice answers



Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
04.1	a correlation means there is a link between a factor and a disease (however the risk factor does not necessarily cause the disease).		1	AO1 4.2.2.6
	causation means that an increase in the risk factor results in an increase in the incidence of the disease.		1	
04.2	age / genes / biological sex		1	AO1 4.2.2.6
04.3	a disease caused by cell division/growth of cells/cell multiplication/mitosis that is out of control/abnormal/uncontrolled.		1 1	AO1 4.2.2.7
04.4	UV light in sun causes changes in DNA / mutations (if not corrected by body) this can lead to uncontrolled cell division		1 1	AO1 4.2.2.7
04.5	benign tumours are contained within a membrane don't invade nearby tissue / can't spread (not cancerous) to form secondary tumours	accept converse answer	1 1 1	AO1 4.2.2.7
05.1	to prevent back flow of blood from left ventricle (into left atrium)		1 1	AO2 4.2.2.2

AQA GCSE Science Combined Higher

Practice answers



Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
05.2	advantages of mechanical heart valve the valve will last longer will require fewer additional surgical procedures in the future not made from an animal product which some people may object to on ethical grounds less chance of body rejection as not using tissue from another organism disadvantages of mechanical valve newer technique – less proven track record / less evidence of any potential long term risks patient has to take permanent medication disadvantages of both / either valve patient will require further procedures in the future both carry risk of rejection both carry risk of infection	to award full marks, answers should include comparative statements between the two types of heart valve, considering at least three factors linked to the two types of valve accept converse statements if answers linked to biological valve	3	AO1 4.2.2.4

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05.3	 advantages of mechanical heart valve the valve will last longer will require fewer additional surgical procedures in the future not made from an animal product which some people may object to on ethical grounds less chance of body rejection as not using tissue from another organism disadvantages of mechanical valve newer technique – less proven track record / less evidence of any potential long term risks patient has to take permanent medication disadvantages of both / either valve patient will require further procedures in the future both carry risk of rejection both carry risk of infection 	to award full marks, answers should include comparative statements between the two types of heart valve, considering at least three factors linked to the two types of valve accept converse statements if answers linked to biological valve	6	AO3 4.2.2.4
06.1	21.3 (kg/m²)	accept $\frac{48}{1.5^2}$ for 1 mark	1 1	AO2 4.2.2.5 4.2.2.6 MS 1c



Practice answers



Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
06.2	healthy weight		1	AO2
				4.2.2.5
				4.2.2.6
				MS 3a
06.3	any six from:		6	A01
	 obesity is a condition where a person is very overweight 			4.2.2.5
	 obese people have an abnormal amount of excess body fat (beneath the skin) 			4.2.2.6
	 obesity is a risk factor for cardiovascular disease 			
	 obesity leads to high blood pressure / the build-up of fatty deposits in the arteries 			
	 fatty deposits in the coronary arteries reduce the oxygen reaching the heart, causing a heart attack 			
	 build-up of fat / lipids in the abdomen increases blood pressure 			
	 obesity increases the risk of type 2 diabetes 			
	 where the body's cells lose their sensitivity to insulin – they no longer respond, or respond less effectively, to the insulin that is produced 			
	 fat intake and obesity increases the risk of certain cancers 			

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06.4	 greater level of exercise (in population) means more energy expended than previously any one from: reduces the number of people for whom energy intake > energy required fewer people would become obese in future larger number of people for whom energy required > energy intake excess fat will be used to supply energy so these (obese) people would lose weight 	to award 2 marks, answer should include energy comparison and effect on population of obese people	1	AO3 4.2.2.5 4.2.2.6

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Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
06.5	 costs drug likely to be very expensive to prescribe so the drugs company can make their development costs back (and make a profit) so cost to NHS / users will be high creates viewpoint (amongst public) that a drug can repair poor lifestyle choices which may encourage more people to make unhealthy lifestyle choices creating a dependency on the drug / leading to other health consequences, e.g. avoiding exercise benefits will reduce number of obese people which will increase their life expectancy / improve quality of life also reducing number of obesity-related conditions / named condition cost to healthcare system / NHS due to obesity-related conditions reduced 	to gain 6 marks, answers should include at least one cost and one benefit to society award 1 mark for each cost, benefit and linked explanation allow other reasonable suggestions	6	AO3 4.2.2.6

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Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
07.1	fatty material builds up inside the coronary arteries		1	A01
	causing them to narrow / lumen is reduced		1	4.2.2.4
	this reduces blood flow		1	
	so less oxygen gets to the heart muscle		1	
07.2	diet / inheritance / drugs		1	AO1
				4.2.2.4
07.3	risk to patient of developing new condition is outweighed	award 1 mark for risk to patient of other conditions	1	AO3
	by / is smaller than	is small		4.2.2.4
	positive impact of statins on risk of CVD	award 1 mark for risk of developing oesophageal cancer also decreases	1	4.2.2.5
07.4	4 200 000		1	AO3
	risk of liver disease in population = $\frac{4200000}{60000000000000000000000000000000$			4.2.2.4
	risk of liver disease 7%		1	4.2.2.5
	additional risk of liver disease due to statins = $\frac{75}{10000}$		1	MS 1c
	additional risk = 0.75%		1	
	statement quantifying risk as significant, e.g. risk is approx.		1	
	10% greater / insignificant, e.g. 0.75% is a very small risk		-	
08.1	reduces blood flow		1	AO2
	reducing the amount of oxygen delivered to the heart		1	4.2.2.4

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Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
08.2	use a stent / metal mesh		1	AO2
	small balloon inserted into the artery which is then inflated to open up the blood vessel		1	4.2.2.4
	stent stays in place to keep the artery open allowing blood to flow		1	
08.3	any four from:		4	AO3
	 platelets are small fragments of cells 			4.2.2.3
	 they stick together to form a blood clot 			4.2.2.4
	 platelets could stick to wall narrowing blood vessel further 			
	 reduces the risk of a blood vessel being blocked further 			
	 preventing loss of blood flow to the heart 			
09.1	add Biuret reagent		1	A01
	changes from blue to purple (if protein present)		1	4.2.2.1
09.2	too large / insoluble		1	AO3
				4.2.2.1
09.3	enzyme had been denatured		1	AO2
	enzyme's protein structure changed / active site altered		1	4.2.2.1
	lactase can no longer bind to lactose to break it down		1	

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Question	Answers	Extra information	Mark	AO / Specification reference
09.4	37.5 °C	accept 35–40 °C	1	AO3
	this was the temperature at which digestion took the least time		1	4.2.2.1
10.1	1.29 h / 1.3 h / 1 h 18 min	award 1 mark for $\frac{36}{700} = 0.051$ award 2 marks for 0.051 × 25 = 1.29	3	AO1 AO2 4.1.2.2 MS 3dd
10.2	 any four from: Stage 1 DNA replicates cell grows bigger increase in the number of subcellular components / mitochondria / ribosomes / other named component Stage 2 mitosis chromosomes line up in the middle of the cell in pairs one set of chromosomes is pulled to each side of the cell Stage 3 	to achieve 4 marks, answer should include information from all parts of the cell cycle	4	AO1 4.1.2.2