

SAQ 2

An 18 year old man presents with increasing left hand pain 36 hours after an injury. He is unable to recall the details of how the injury occurred. A clinical image of the patient's left hand is shown on the next page.

a. Describe and interpret the clinical image (5 Marks)

Describe - 2 mark each up to marks

- *Wound overlying 3rd MCPJ*
- *Swelling to dorsum of hand*
- *Normal cascade of fingers*
- *Wound appears necrotic*
- *? Purulent discharge*
- *Erythema to dorsum of hand*

Interpretation - 1 mark each for 3 marks

- *Cellulitis of dorsum of hand*
- *Potential tendon / joint involvement*
- *Likely 'fight bite' injury*

b. Outline your management (5 Marks)

Nil resus issues suggested in stem answer should focus on specific therapy

1 mark each for:

- *i.v antibiotics*
 - *eTG regimes: tazocin 4.5g or timentin 3.1g or metronidazole 400mg plus ceftriaxone 1g / cefotaxime 1g or moxifloxacin 400mg po or metronidazole 400mg plus doxycycline 200mg*
- *Tetanus prophylaxis if required*
- *Disposition - plastic surgeons +/- OT*

1 mark each up to 2 marks from:

- *Elevation*
- *Keep NBM / Prep for OT*
- *Analgesia*
- *Seek & treat other injuries*

*Question taken from FACEM VAQ question 2012.2.7 and answer's adapted from examiner's report
Image taken from <http://lifeinthefastlane.com/clinical-image-quiz-026/>*