CME quiz discussion

These discussions relate to the January 1990 JAOA quiz.

- 1. (e) All of the answers (anastomotic leak, pneumothorax, vocal cord paralysis, and anastomotic stricture) are complications of blunt esophagectomy.
- 2. (a and c) According to Postlethwait's review of more than 500 operations for squamous cell carcinoma of the esophagus, the most frequent causes of death were anastomotic leak and pulmonary complications.
- 3. (a) True. One of the most well-documented manifestations

of myocarditis is idiopathic congestive cardiomyopathy (ICCM). With the increasing use of endomyocardial biopsy (EMB), there is growing evidence that myocardial inflammation may be one causative factor. The number of patients with ICCM that have myocarditis by EMB ranges from 9% to 63%.

- 4. (a) True. Viruses are the most commonly known factors related to myocarditis, with coxsackievirus causing at least half of the cases.
- 5. (a) True. The standard treatment for myocarditis has been to

provide supportive care and to minimize the risk factors. However, immunosuppressive medications are now being used more often in documented myocarditis with deterioration. It must be remembered that during acute viral myocarditis, a much higher mortality may occur when steroids are given.

6. (a) Styloid elongation (Eagle's syndrome) is reported more frequently in women. However, symptoms usually occur after age 30.