

Question 35 – Week of February 28

Which of the following is least likely to be an identifiable cause of drug induced acute pancreatitis?

- A. Didanosine
- B. Azathioprine
- C. Rifampin
- D. Valproic acid

Answer: C

Many frequently prescribed drugs have been suspected to cause acute pancreatitis, although the diagnosis is often difficult to prove. Prior studies have classified medications into different groups based on the strength of association with acute pancreatitis. Class I medications have been implicated in at least one case report with a positive rechallenge. Class II medications have been implicated in at least 4 cases in the literature with >75% with consistent latency. Class III medications have at least 2 cases reported in the literature, but no consistency nor rechallenge; and class IV do not fit the above criteria, with single case reports with no rechallenge. All of the above medications fall into class I except rifampin, which is a class IV drug based on the above criteria.