

### Question 20 – January 18

A 54 year old woman with alcoholic cirrhosis undergoes emergent band ligation for variceal hemorrhage. Which of the following strategies reduces mortality?

- A. Octreotide infusion for 5 days started on admission.
- B. Albumin 25% every 6 hours for 24 hours on admission.
- C. Ciprofloxacin started at discharge and continued for 7 days.
- D. Ceftriaxone started on admission and continued for 7 days.

### Answer: D

Antibiotics are the only option on the list shown to improve mortality but they should be started on admission. Some vasoactive agents like terlipressin can improve mortality in this population but is not available in the US. Octreotide has not been shown to improve mortality but does help initial and early hemostasis.

### References:

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