Question sheet

A 38 year old female school teacher presents by ambulance after a conscious collapse at work. She had been unwell at work that day.

HR 160 -190 AF, BP 190/110, T 39.5, RR 30. SpO2 92% on air

She is confused, tremulous and anxious. GCS 14. BSL 11.6 There is mild pitting oedema.

No medication history is available

1. What are 6 differential diagnoses?
2. The husband arrives and reports a recent history of a neck lump which is due to be investigated. Closer examination reveals a diffuse multinodular goitre.

What are 5 underlying conditions can cause thyrotoxicosis and what are their clinical features?

1. What are 5 immediate treatment priorities?

Answer Sheet

1. What are 6 differential diagnoses?
   1. Thyroid storm
   2. CNS infection
   3. Heat stroke
   4. Sympathomimetic overdose
   5. Serotonin syndrome
   6. Neurolept malignant syndrome
2. What underlying conditions?
   1. Graves disease
   2. Toxic multinodular goitre
   3. Toxic adenoma
   4. Thyroiditis
   5. Drug induced (amiodarone)
3. What are the immediate treatment priorities
   1. Supportive care including sedation and active cooling
   2. Management of cardiac complications with nonselective beta blocker (propranolol)
   3. Prevention of peripheral conversion of T4 to T3 with corticosteroids
   4. Decreased production with carbimazole or propylthiouracil
   5. Referral for definitive management of underlying condition