

QUESTION
A patient with a long history of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is admitted to the hospital with a respiratory tract infection. The patient has been on chronic low-dose prednisone therapy for several years. The nurse should monitor the patient for which of the following complications?

- ANSWER**
C. Osteoporosis



Options:
A. Hypertension
B. Diabetes mellitus
C. Osteoporosis
D. Anemia

ANSWER AND RATIONALE
The correct answer is C. Osteoporosis. Long-term use of corticosteroids (prednisone) can lead to osteoporosis, a condition characterized by weakened bones. The patient's history of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and long-term use of prednisone increases the risk of developing osteoporosis. The other options (hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and anemia) are not directly related to the patient's history and current medication use.

QUESTION 124
A patient with a long history of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) is admitted to the hospital with a respiratory tract infection. The patient has been on chronic low-dose prednisone therapy for several years. The nurse should monitor the patient for which of the following complications?