

## Internal Medicine Feedback Cases

### Vignette 1

#### Teacher

You have had a very busy night, and you have had a clinical clerk working with you which has been helpful in getting some the admissions done. He has just come to you to review one of them with you, a 61 year old woman presenting with confusion. He has presented an extremely detailed history with an extensive functional inquiry, however despite the fact that the patient is drowsy and confused, he didn't assess the patient's vital signs nor formally document her level of consciousness and orientation.

#### Learner

You are a clinical clerk and have just started your first rotation, in internal medicine , and it is very exciting, but you are not feeling very confident in dealing with such sick patients. You have just seen a 61-year old woman who was brought to the emergency room by her family because she seemed confused. You took a long time taking the history because she didn't seem to understand your questions very well, and she seemed quite sleepy. However, eventually you got answers to most of your questions, but the functional enquiry took a long time! You weren't sure what to do for a physical exam, because she wasn't very cooperative. In the end, you tried to look in her fundi and check her cranial nerves and DTR's. It was hard to get her to cooperate in the testing, so you have come to report back to the senior resident. Hopefully you can get some tips on how to do a good neurological examination.

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### Vignette 2

#### Teacher

You are busy on-call and have been asked to see a surgical patient who has developed a post op fever. As you are so busy (and somewhat annoyed about having this consult), you send the clerk to check things out. The clerk is now back and about to report to you.

This clerk is quite inexperienced and seems to lack confidence. You notice that the clerk seems to have done a good abdominal examination, but has not done a chest examination!

#### Learner

You are a clinical clerk who has just been called to the ward to see a 75-year old man who is 4 days post-op from the resection of a bowel ca. He has been doing quite well so far except in the area of pain control. The nurses called you to see him because he spiked a temp of 39.8 degrees this afternoon, and it appears to be persisting. His blood pressure is 150/90, heart rate of 88 bpm, and you rechecked his temp and found it to be 40.5. Abdominal exam is slightly mysterious to you, because of all the dressings etc, but he does have bowel sounds, and although tender around where you believe the incision to be, he doesn't seem to be particularly tender elsewhere in the abdomen. You didn't didn't examine his chest.

You are wondering if this could be a subphrenic abscess, something you were reading about last night, but you really aren't sure about what you should be assessing in this situation. In fact, you are really quite anxious and worry that you may harm patients because of your inexperience and lack of clinical knowledge.