

Candidate Instructions

Role: FY1

Presenting Complaint: Shortness of breath

- Kate Albert is a 90-year-old female who has come to Oncology assessment unit complaining of Shortness of Breath

You are expected to:

0-10 minutes:

- Take a focused history from Kate (8 mins)
- Answer the examiner's questions (2 mins)

10-20 minutes:

- Explain the diagnosis & prognosis to Kate.
- Discuss how the condition can be managed.
- Discuss the support available for her family who look after her.

Simulator Instructions- History

Patient Demographics

You are Kate Albert a 90-year-old female.

Presenting Complaint: I have been feeling quite out of breath for last 2 weeks.

History of Presenting Complaint

- Pain- There is no pain.
- Severity – It has been getting worse. Before it was just going up stairs and now I get it when I stand up.
- Triggers – Just standing up and walking.
- Functional Impairment – cant walk anywhere now or leave house. Son brought me here but had to leave for work.
- Associated Symptoms – no cough or fevers,
- ICE – I am just worried I might have an infection and you know about other things, If asked what other things then say worried about cancer, have some scans to have a look what is going on

Past Medical History

- Diagnoses & Treatments- have renal cancer – have chemotherapy in past but not more treatment now just symptom management. Was diagnosed 1 year ago.
- I have hypertension, diabetes

Dhx:

- Allergies – no allergies
- Amlodipine, metformin

Family History

Can't remember

Social

- Used to be ex-alcoholic but 10 years sober now
- Smoking stopped 5 years ago – but smoked most my life about 20 a day
- Accommodation- I live with my son and his family in a terraced house, my bedroom is upstairs, nut finding it hard to go up and down stairs.
- Finances- Retired but have family look after me as well as pension
- Support network – live with youngest son and have daughter and older son that live close by

Examiner Marksheet

Opening

- Introduces themselves
- Confirms Patient demographics
- Explains and gains consent from patient about consultation

History

- Demonstrates Professionalism & Empathy
- Demonstrates Communication skills
- Demonstrates time-management skills
- Systematic questioning
- History of Presenting Complaint
- Assess impact on patient (Sleep, Nutrition, Safety, Hygiene etc.)
- ICE
- Past Medical History
- Family History
- Social History (Drugs, Alcohol, Accommodation, Finances, Support)
- Detailed Psychosocial history

Examiner Questions

- Diagnostic reasoning & Communication to examiner (Diagnosis, Assessments, Investigations etc.)

What is your differential diagnosis?

Metastases, chest infection e.g. pneumonia or any other reasonable suggestion

What single most important investigation would you like to order?

Chest x-ray

Give chest x-ray on next page and ask to discuss with patient

Discussion

- Demonstrates time-management skills
- Demonstrates Professionalism & Empathy
- Demonstrates Communication skills
- Remain patient-centred while also considering needs of all family members
- Offer support where available (Websites, Services, Brochures)
- Works with patient to reach mutually agreeable management plan
- Information giving
 - Accuracy & Appropriateness of information
 - Given in easy to understand 'chunks', without using Jargon
 - Regularly checks patient understanding
 - Addresses patient concerns & questions
 - Use silence appropriately

Ending Consultation

- Summarises and clarifies any points
- Thanks patient
- Signposting



Case courtesy of Vikas Shah, [Radiopaedia.org](https://radiopaedia.org/?lang=gb).
From the case [rID: 36720](https://radiopaedia.org/cases/36720?lang=gb)