

Actor Script**Bed Space 2**

Patient Name: Alex Patel

Age/DOB: 43 (DOB 01/01/83)

Presenting Complaint: Asthma attack

History of presenting complaint:

Brought into A and E by ambulance having had a problem with breathing. Started whilst out with friends. Walked past a farmer's field that was harvesting wheat and started coughing. Chest felt tight. You were struggling to talk, and you found it difficult to breathe. No chest pain. Cough – not productive. Was given something in the ambulance which seemed to really help. They put a mask on you which was misting and that seemed to calm things down. Your chest is less tight now and your breathing feels better. You have not had any other medication other than the nebuliser. You have never been admitted to hospital for asthma before. You were not aware of any specific triggers for your asthma before.

Otherwise has been well. No other symptoms.

Past medical history: Asthma.

Drug history: Symbicort 100/3. 2 puffs morning and night. You have not however been using your inhaler recently as your asthma has been well controlled and not bothering you. You therefore have stopped using it as you feel better.

You are not allergic to anything

Family history: Nothing of note.

Social history: You live alone. You have a pet cat and bird. You work at a local gym and try to keep yourself fit and active. You think this helps with your asthma normally being so well controlled. You smoke 5 cigarettes a day and have a bottle of wine over the week. You occasional smoke cannabis but not regularly.

Systems review: No other symptoms

ICE: You think it is your asthma which is causing your chest to feel tight but you are not sure why it is worse now. You are worried you will need to change your medication or have more medication or tests. You are however feeling much better now and would like to potentially go home.

Simulation Overview

You will be the same character all morning. The simulation is split into two halves. 2 students will be looking after you for each part of the simulation. These will be observed by student observers. The observers are there to provide feedback for the student and should not be involved in the simulation itself. Following each half of the simulation you will be asked to provide feedback from the patients' perspective.

Simulation A

The simulation will start with you having arrived at the hospital. You will have had a nebuliser in the ambulance and one on the ward but you have not yet had a history taken or been re-examined since. You will need to give the students the history and have obs taken. The students will need to examine your chest. Please wear clothing which enables them to do this. You may have to perform a peak flow. You will not know how to do this and will like the students to demonstrate this to you. Please do it like you have been instructed by the students. The students should prescribe prednisolone for you.

Simulation B

You are waiting to be sent home. The students should review the Chest-xray and then tell you what this shows (normal). They then should ask you about your inhaler technique. You are not very good at this, and it needs improvement. Follow the students' instructions for this. Ask the students then if you can go home. Check that prednisolone has been prescribed and how long you will need to take it for. They will write a discharge letter for you to give to your GP.