

Case: M/19, White, Right Chest Pain With Decreased Oxygenation

DOCTOR: Good afternoon. You look so out of breath. Are you OK?

PATIENT: No doctor, I'm having difficulty in breathing.

DOCTOR: Let me check your arterial oxygen (Check using Pulse Oximeter). It's a little bit lower than normal. Don't worry, I've already ordered oxygen for you because the nurse already told me earlier that you're having difficulty in breathing. The oxygen should be here any minute soon.

PATIENT: Thank you, doctor.

DOCTOR: Aside from difficulty in breathing, what are the things that are bothering you right now?

PATIENT: I'm also having chest pain.

DOCTOR: I see. So is it manageable?

PATIENT: No doctor.

DOCTOR: Could you tell me exactly where the pain is?

PATIENT: It's on my right chest.

DOCTOR: Can you still remember when it started?

PATIENT: It started four hours ago.

DOCTOR: Did it start all of a sudden or gradually?

PATIENT: It was very sudden.

DOCTOR: What were you doing when the pain started?

PATIENT: I was reading a newspaper during breakfast four hours ago.

DOCTOR: Did you experience any trauma recently?

PATIENT: No doctor.

DOCTOR: Is the pain consistent or intermittent?

PATIENT: It's on and off doctor.

DOCTOR: But are you feeling better now or worse?

PATIENT: I feel worse each time I take a deep breath.

DOCTOR: What is the pain like? Is it sharp? Dull? Pressure-like? Or is it similar to indigestion? (Ask each symptom one by one)

PATIENT: It's a pressure like pain

DOCTOR: Is there anything else that makes the pain worse? Like cough or positional changes? (Ask each question one by one)

PATIENT: It becomes worse each time I move or take a deep breath.

DOCTOR: But is there anything that makes the pain better?

PATIENT: Yes Doctor. I feel a little better each time I take anti-coagulants.

DOCTOR: Do you have any other symptoms like shortness of breath? Cough? Dizziness? Fever? Chills? Runny nose? Sweating? Nausea/vomiting? Diarrhea/constipation? (Ask each symptom one by one)

PATIENT: My heart beats faster than usual, I feel dizzy at times together with low blood pressure, my temperature goes up and I sometimes catch my breath.

DOCTOR: Don't you feel any weird heart beats?

PATIENT: No but my heart beats fast.

DOCTOR: Do you have any other illness like Cancer? Stroke? Blood clot or what we call deep vein thrombosis? (Ask each symptom one by one)

PATIENT: Luckily, I don't have any of those.

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DOCTOR: What about past illness?

PATIENT: No, doctor.

DOCTOR: Have you had any surgeries recently?

PATIENT: No, doctor.

DOCTOR: Are you taking any medications right now?

PATIENT: Yes, doctor.

DOCTOR: Do you have any food or drug allergies?

PATIENT: No, doctor.

DOCTOR: Is there anybody in your family who is experiencing the same symptom?

PATIENT: Yes, doctor.

DOCTOR: Is there anybody in your family having problems in the lungs?

PATIENT: No, doctor.

DOCTOR: Anybody had a cancer in the past?

PATIENT: My father has lung cancer.

DOCTOR: Is there anything that I missed out? Nothing else that you think I should know? (Ask each question one by one)

PATIENT: No. I think that's all.