



## **GPRA ONLINE EXAM RESOURCES CLINICAL CASES**

CASE TYPE:

**Short Case – 8 minutes**

NAME:

**Peter Braun**

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## **SECTION A: This information is given to the candidate**

(Author Initials, date written, case name, moderator initials

Review date:

## INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- This is an 8 minute station.
- Read the following scenario.
- This consultation takes place in a single session.
- **Take an appropriate history from the patient.**
- **No further physical examination is required.**
- **Manage the significant elements of this case.**
- **Discuss the essential issues that arise with the patient and suggest appropriate management.**
- **Discuss your conclusions and proposed management with the observing examiner, who will ask you several questions.**

## **SECTION A: This information is given to the candidate**

**SCENARIO :** Peter Braun is a 48 year old man who is known to you. You have been treating his depression for 3 months and he seems to be improving on Sertraline combined with counseling by yourself.

A copy of the patient record summary sheet is attached.

### **FULL SUMMARY**

#### **Patient Details**

Name: Peter Braun

D.O.B.: 14/5/1958 (48)

Allergies: Nil

#### **Social History**

Occupation: Plumber

Lives alone, good friends with neighbours

Usually active and successful in local sports teams but recently pulled out due to tiredness

#### **Family History**

Estranged from partner. Has a 10 year old son whom he loves but only sees monthly

#### **Current Medications**

Sertraline 100mg daily

**Immunisations** Up to date

#### **Past Medical History**

Depression

Lacerated finger

Supraspinatus tendonitis

Drug and Alcohol. Nil known, non smoker

## **SECTION B: This information is given to the patient role player/examiner**

### **THE STORY IN DETAIL**

You are a 48 year old plumber who has been seeing the doctor on and off for the last 3 months for depression. You have mainly been feeling down, tired, don't want to go to work, don't enjoy sport any more. You have been improving with medication. Yesterday you found out that your estranged partner is moving 4 hours away and taking your son with her. You are usually able to see your son, (whom you love a great deal) every month, now it is likely to be only yearly. You get on well with your neighbours. Until 4 months ago you were an active and successful member of several local sporting teams

#### *Information to be freely given:*

Any of the Above.

That you want to end it all, tired of everyone being against you etc. etc.

If you can't see you son then nothing's worthwhile

You just wanted to stop by and say "thanks for the help, don't think it is your fault Doctor".

#### *Information only to be given with appropriate enquiry from the candidate:*

You have your car outside with a tube in it ready to attach to the exhaust (or whatever method you have chosen, it's all ready to go). All details planned. You have given away your tools of the trade to your apprentice. You have given your treasured items to neighbours. You have left a letter and a gift for your son in your house.

You WILL NOT go to the hospital if this is suggested.

If they threaten to call the police etc then you will try and leave.

However, you will calm down if the candidate makes you think about the consequences of your actions on your son or other loved ones. And if they have calmed you down, then you will sit quietly and wait for someone to pick you up to go to the hospital to get some help.

If you have not been made to think about the consequences then you will storm and rant and tell of your plan and how the police won't be able to catch you.

### **NOTES TO EXAMINERS**

The Observing examiner will stop the scenario at 7 minutes if and ask the following questions: What are your main priorities in this situation?

What resources do you have to help you in this situation.

## **SECTION C: This information is given to the examiner/facilitator**

Listed below are the key issues to be covered in this case. *(The facilitator/examiner can “tick” these as covered during the consult)*

### **Specific Questions Candidate should ask**

Why he has got to this point  
Gauge seriousness of intent  
Supports

### **Appropriate management and explanation:**

Listen empathetically  
Try and make Peter think about the consequences of his actions eg. Son growing up without even phone calls or holidays with his dad, who will find him, etc  
Ensure safety, calling Crisis Assessment team/police/good friend to take him to hospital.

Main priorities - ensure safety of patient and significant others. Voluntary admission if possible. Call on resource of Practice/CAT/Police/Other for assistance of required.

This checklist below is a guide to Key Features used by Examiners to assist in clinical case ratings. The lists are not intended to be prescriptive or exhaustive and do not form part of the marking. *(Please place an asterisk next to the Clinical Case Rating Key Features that are most relevant to this case).*

On completion of the case, the candidate/examiner/group may wish to score themselves as part of a feedback process.

**Place a cross (X) along each line according to the candidate's performance on that item.**

# CLINICAL CASE RATINGS KEY FEATURES CHECKLIST

(\*) key feature relevant to this case

Inadequately Covered  
**1**

Covered Well  
**10**

1 \* ● Communication and Rapport

2 ● Inter-professional Communication Skills

3 ● History taking

4 ● Physical examination

5 ● History and Physical Examination

6 ● Physical Examination Technique

7 ● Physical Examination Findings

8 ● Investigations

9 ● Diagnosis

10 \* ● Problem Definition

11 ● Medical Knowledge

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12	● Public Health Issues	
13	* ● Management	
14	● Procedural Skills	
15	* ● Ethical and Medico Legal Issues	
16	● Critical Appraisal Skills	
17	●	
		Frequently <span style="margin-left: 200px;">Not at all</span>
18	● Prompting Required	

## Key Features Clinical Case Rating Descriptions

### **1. Communication and Rapport**

Rate the candidate on their ability to establish rapport and to communicate effectively with the patient in a pleasant, clear and logical manner using appropriate communication skills and language.

### **10. Problem Definition**

Rate the candidate on their ability to identify, define and prioritise the physical, psychological and social issues involved for the patient, the family and the community.

### **13. Management**

Rate the candidate on their ability to manage the issues raised in this case, both now and in the future. Candidates should offer effective explanations, education and choices to patients, and involve the patient, family and relevant community resources in their immediate and on going management plans. Candidates should demonstrate responsibility for the immediate and ongoing management of the patient.

### **15. Ethical and Medico Legal Issues**

Rate the candidate's ability to deal with the ethical, medico legal and professional issues raised by this case.

### **18. Prompting**

To what extent was prompting/probing necessary to assist the candidate?

The 6 categories are: Almost continuously (cross on far left), very frequently, frequently, occasionally, minimally, not at all (cross on far right).

## References and Study Notes:

List any useful references relevant to this case

<http://www.racgp.org.au/afp/downloads/pdf/september2002/20020901horgan.pdf>  
**Lifeline Counsellors**  
**?where else**