



GPRA ONLINE EXAM RESOURCES CLINICAL CASES

CASE TYPE:

Short Case – 8 minutes

NAME:

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SECTION A: This information is given to the candidate

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

STANDARD INSTRUCTIONS

- This is an 8 minute station.
- Read the following scenario.
- This consultation takes place in a single session.

ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Manage the significant elements of this case.

SECTION A: This information is given to the candidate

SCENARIO:

Jonathon Chacarter is a 34 year old male who is coming to see you for the first time.

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

THE STORY IN DETAIL

You are Jonathon Chacarter, a 34 year old male who is visiting this GP for the first time. You are addicted to diazepam and are trying to get a script as it gets too expensive on the street. You decide to give the doctor false information so he can't trace you. You are inventing answers on the spot as you weren't well prepared with much of a story. Deny everything except the need for a good sleep so you can cope. Give slightly different answers to hint that you are inventing the story. In real life you work giving advice on home projects at a large hardware store. You are unmarried and have no children

Information to be freely given

Your father just died last week. You are arranging the funeral, have some very important meetings going on in your stressful job. Having trouble sleeping, distressed, but need to support the rest of the family. You want to get some sleeping tablets so that you can get everything done that you need to do during the day.

You get angry if the doctor doesn't want to give you medication. You want a full script, don't want to muck around needing to come back. Get cranky if the doctor asks too many questions. You don't have time for all this; you have to arrange this funeral. Deny the need for any other supports. You are not willing to try any other treatments. If offered any other types of benzodiazepine then ask for Valium. ("A friend used these and said it worked a treat.")

If the doctor confronts you with inventing the story then you would be willing to discuss Benzo contracts. You are not willing to stop diazepam at this stage, but know that some of your current sources may be dangerous.

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

Determine any depression, suicidality

Ask about sleep, supports, time off, relaxation etc

Diagnosis

Identify drug seeking behaviour

Appropriate management and explanation:

Discuss and Offer alternative supports

May offer a few eg 4 on a script, daily pick-ups with single pharmacy. Then return with long appointment for further help

Remains calm in face of angry, conniving patient, does not give a whole script.

May deal with him in a number of ways.

May enquire about previous doctors seen and request old medical records. May utilize doctor shopper hotline.

May realize that patient is inventing the story and explore the reason why, discuss harm minimization, Benzo contracts, and ongoing care.

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.

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 ● Diagnosis

5 * ● Problem Definition

6 ● Medical Knowledge

7 * ● Management

8 * ● Ethical and Medico Legal Issues

Frequently

Not at all

9 ● 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.

3. History taking

Rate the candidate on their ability to take a relevant and organised history; following appropriate cues and eliciting both positive and negative details important to the assessment and management of the patient.

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

Murtagh

Motivational counselling

Managing the difficult consultation workshops