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|  | UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA | SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY  MASTER DEGREE IN MEDICINE AND SURGERY A.A. 2021/2022  Case Based Learning and General Clinical Practice |

**UNIT 4- GROUP EXERCISE 4**

**Cecily**

20 minutes

It’s spring. The warm weather gives you with a nice feeling of happiness.

You don’t feel like going to the out of hour service at all. You don’t have to do anything special and so around 1 am you decide to have a little rest. At 4 am you get a phone call from the husband of a 55-year-old woman who urges you to go to his house as his wife has difficulty breathing and doesn’t want to go to A&E.

He explains that his wife has been suffering from bronchial asthma since she was a child and today after coming back late from a party with some friends, she began to cough and had shortness of breath. Although she took Ventolin puff twice, her difficulty in breathing is getting worse and she has been coughing for two hours. She has already had similar problems but never this bad.

He asks if someone can go there immediately and examine her.

You get out of bed immediately and go to see the lady. Once you reach her house you see the lady is in serious trouble. She is standing, she looks terribly worried, she gasps and she lets out some hisses when she breathes. From a quick look you see that she is already using her accessory muscles and looks exhausted.

“ Doc in hospital” but she can’t finish her sentence due to her breathing problem. “Doc in hospital.. no” she struggles in saying it . Her husband, unhappy and upset, raises his arms.” Bloody hell! How come you always behaves like this when something serious happens? You are a stubborn person, that’s who you are!”

***What are your hypotheses?***

***Do you need more information?***

***Describe the physical examination you would perform***

On examination:

BLOOD PRESSURE: 105/70 mmHg

PULSE 125 BEATS PER MINUTE

RESPIRATION RATE: 32 PER MINUTE.

SATURATION O2: 90%

THORAX AUSCULTATION: silent chest

TEMPERATURE: 36.5°C.

NO SWOLLEN LEGS

MEDICINE: Beclometasone/Formoterolo 100/6 1puff two times daily.

***Which hypothesis do you select ? What criteria would you use?***

***What main signs have helped you in the evaluation?***

***How serious is the problem of the patient?***

***What is the degree of uncertainty about the outcome if you make the intervention you have considered?***

***What would you decide to do?***

***What exactly would you tell the patient?***

Pasolli Parisi 2018