

Monash Health Fellowship examination OSCE

SUBJECT AND CURRICULUM REFERENCE:

Headache

- Leadership
- History Taking
- Medical expertise
- Communication

CLINICAL SCENARIO STEM:

A 35 yo woman presents to the emergency department complaining of 2 hours of headache

INSTRUCTIONS:

Candidate:

A 35 yo previously healthy woman presents to the emergency department complaining of 2 hours of headache. Take a history. After 6 minutes you will be asked to summarize the findings and give a differential diagnosis.

You will not be required to examine the patient, Vital signs : BP 160/90 HR 90
O2sats 98% RR 14 GCS 15

The examiners will be observing and may ask you a question.

Role player- patient

You are a 35yo woman called Mary Smith. You suffer from migraines approximately 4-5 times a year.

You present with a terrible headache since this morning

If you are asked give the following information:

At 10:00am you experienced a rapid onset headache. This headache is different to your usual migraines. At its onset you rate it 10/10. Currently is 7/10. You did not have an aura prior to the onset of the headache. The headache is at the back of your head and neck.

The light bothers your eyes and you are nauseated.

Apart from migraines you do not have any other medical history. You are not taking any medications and you do not have any allergies. You are a non smoker. You drink a glass of wine with dinner.

Your family history includes your father having a bypass at the age of 65.

You took panadeine and three aspirin prior to arrival.

You have not had a collapse.

You live with your husband and 2 children (7yo and 3 yo).

You are concerned as this headache feels different to your usual migraines.

Examiner:

Observation initially.

After 6 minutes ask the candidate to give a summary and a DDx .

Assessment criteria:

Confirms history of headache

Onset of headache, nature, associated symptoms (nausea, vomiting,
photophobia), duration , collapse

PMHx, meds , Family History of SAH