

Pediatric Sprained Ankle

An eight year old is brought to triage because an injured right ankle. The child tripped over a ball while playing soccer. The ankle hurts with ambulation and you notice edema over the medial aspect of the ankle. His mother tells you the child is healthy, takes no medications and has no allergies. VS WNL.

Respiratory Distress

Paramedics arrive with a 42 y/o morbidly obese female who called EMS with a CC of SOB. On arrival the paramedics found her sitting upright, working hard at breathing with a respiratory rate of 48 and a room air SpO₂ of 84%. They are unable to obtain any further history.

Lump on Back

“ I have a lump on my back” reports a 28 year old healthy male. Upon further questioning he tells you the lump looks like a huge, large pimple. He reports no drainage or fever. No PMH or Meds. His vital signs are T 98.8, HR 72, RR 16, BP 118/74.

Lower Abdominal Pain with Vaginal Bleeding

23 y/o female presents to triage with a CC of moderate vaginal bleeding and generalized abdominal cramping (5/10) for 2 hours. Her LMP was 8 weeks ago. She is G1P0. Her skin is warm & dry. VS: T 98.6, HR 84, RR 20, BP 110/80.

Urinary Retention

A 72 year old male presents to triage with a chief complaint of inability to urinate for 4 hours. He has been able to “dribble” throughout the day and appears comfortable at triage. He currently rates his pain as 4/10. Skin warm and dry. VS: T 99.0, HR 92, RR 20, BP 140/85

Dislocated Shoulder

A 45 y/o male is brought to triage by his friend who states the patient injured his left shoulder while playing football. The patient has a gross deformity to his shoulder with neuro deficits to the left arm. He is unable to move his arm, complains of excruciating pain, (20/10 when asked), and is diaphoretic.

Cellulitis

Mom brings her 4 y/o son to triage with a CC of a red arm. The patient was bitten by the family dog about 3 days ago. The child is cranky. His right arm is reddened, with edema to a large area surrounding the dog bite. VS: T 99.5, HR 120, RR 24.

Elderly Patient with Pneumonia

A 70 year old male arrives by ambulance from the nursing home. The nursing home reports a non-productive cough since he choked on his lunch today. His baseline mental status is unchanged, although he is normally confused. Skin is warm and moist. VS: T 100.2, HR 94, RR 20, BP 135/80, SpO2 on RA = 94%.

Laceration

A tearful 5 year old is carried in by her father who reports his daughter was trying to help set the dinner table and broke a glass. You notice a 3 cm laceration on her left hand. The bleeding is controlled. PMH: none, NKDA, and no medications. Vital signs: T 97.8, HR 108, RR 24, BP 98/64.

Hematemesis

EMS arrives with a 49 year old male with a history of cirrhosis and hepatitis C. His wife called 911 when he started vomiting bright red blood. On arrival he is pale, diaphoretic and has a BP of 92/78, HR 130, RR 28.

Headache

“I have this awful headache. I can’t stand the pain! I’ve had headaches before but never one like this ” reports a 35 year old female. She tells you that her pain is 10+ “I feel sick to my stomach. Can’t you give me something for the pain?” T 98, BP 148/102, HR 96, RR 22, SpO2 99%

Infected Wound

“I had my appendix out last week and today I noticed that my incision has opened up. My belly is all red and the incision is draining this gross yellow stuff” reports a 19 year old male. No PMH, no medications, allergic to PCN. T 101.8, HR 98, RR 14, BP 128/68, SpO2 100%

Alcoholic with Head Injury

Police bring a male found sleeping in the park. He appears disheveled and is known to the ED staff; he was recently discharged from the ED earlier in the day with ETOH intoxication. At present, he is slumped over in the WC, ETOH on breath, and non-responsive to painful stimuli. VS: T 98.7, HR 92, RR 20, BP 130/80

Weak Male with Chronic Renal Failure

62 y/o male presents with vague complaints of generalized weakness. He was scheduled for dialysis today, however, patient states he was feeling too sick and weak & feels like he is going to pass out. The patient has no specific complaints other than weakness. He is slightly pale, warm, dry, and in no respiratory distress. He has a history of cardiac disease as well.

VS: T 98.9, HR 94, RR 22, BP 160/95

Pediatric Trauma

You are notified by EMS that you are receiving an 8 y/o female, pedestrian, who was struck by a bus while crossing the street. By-standers report she was thrown across the street. Initial VS: HR 148, RR 36, BP 70/palp, RA SpO2 91%.

Hypertension

33 y/o female presents to triage from the ophthalmologist's office. She complains of a severe (10/10) frontal headache for 4 days and suspected the need for glasses. The ophthalmologist performed an exam, and referred her directly to the ED for further evaluation. VS: T 99.0, HR 82, RR 16, BP 260/160, SpO2 98%.

Post Arrest

You are notified by EMS you are receiving a 78 y/o male who collapsed in his garden. His daughter called 911 immediately and then started CPR. He was defibrillated 3 times and is brought to the ED in a sinus bradycardia with a BP of 88 systolic.

Poison Ivy

A 14 year old male is brought to the emergency department by his mother who tells you she is concerned her son has poison ivy. He was doing some yard work for a neighbor and 2 days later developed itching, redness and little blisters on his arms. She is concerned that he will spread it to the whole family. He is healthy, on no medications and has normal vital signs.

Possible Myocardial Infarction

“My wife made me come to the emergency department. She thinks I’m having a heart attack because I have this pain...well, not really pain but pressure, like someone is sitting on me. It woke me up about 30 min ago.” states a 55 year old male as he clutches his left chest. You notice that his skin is pale and diaphoretic. He admits to feeling short of breath & sick to his stomach. He takes “something” for his cholesterol. HR 88 irreg, RR 24, BP 102/70

Epigastric Area Pressure

A 47 y/o female presents to triage with a co-worker who insisted the patient be evaluated. The patient is c/o constant epigastric pressure with nausea for 3 hours. She is pale, cool and moist. Rates distress 7/10, but wants to go back to the office; PMH: high cholesterol and “GI problems”. VS: T 97.8, HR 82, RR 16, BP 120/80

Suicidal Ideation

21 y/o female presents to triage with her parents who state their daughter has expressed suicidal ideation since her boyfriend recently broke up with her. The patient denies suicidal ideation. The female is alert, oriented x3, anxious, and somewhat non-cooperative. VS: T 97.9, HR 82, RR 20, BP 115/70. The patient is requesting to leave; after all, as she states, she is 21!

Weak & Dizzy

A 76 year old female tells you that she feels like she is going to pass out. “I’ve been feeling very dizzy since I got up this morning. That is not like me. I am never sick and I don’t like to complain.” Her SpO2 is 96% and her HR is 32.

Pediatric Fever

Parents rush into the emergency department with their 11 month old child. “He has a temperature of 103.8” reports the mother. “he woke up from his nap & is cranky. He keeps pulling on his left ear.” The baby is sitting quietly on the mother’s lap sucking on a bottle of juice. He cries when you try to listen to his heart. T 102.6, HR 128, RR 30, SpO2 100%

Asthmatic Teen

A hassled mother presents to triage with her 10 year old daughter. “I told her to pack it, but she forgot” The mother states her daughter is an asthmatic who uses an inhaler when needed. They are on a skiing vacation and the mother is concerned her daughter is going to need the inhaler. The girl’s vital signs are normal and she has no other medical problems.

Urinary Tract Infection

“I think I have a urinary tract infection. It burns when I go to the bathroom and I am going all the time, but only going a little.” This 19 year old patient has had these symptoms for 24 hours. She denies fever, chills, or vaginal discharge. She is healthy, on no medications and has no allergies. Vital signs: T 97.8, HR 80, RR 16, BP 110/76.

Conjunctivitis

**“My eyes are all red and crusty” states a healthy 32 year old female. She tells you she has had reddened, itchy eyes for 2 day. Meds: birth control pills, NKDA
Vital signs: T 98.6, HR 72, RR 16, BP 122/76**