



# **COMPLEX LEVEL 2 PE EXAM**

**PAIN-MEDICATION  
SEEKING PATIENT**






# Patient Data Sheet

- **Patient Name** : Mr. Jimmy Katz
- **Clinical Settings** : Medicine Office
- **CC** : A 45 years old male comes to clinic to get pain medicines.

## Vital Signs:

- **Blood Pressure** : 124 / 84 mm Hg
  - **Respirations** : 14 per minute
  - **Temperature** : 98.0 °F
  - **Pulse** : 90 bpm, regular
  - **Height** : 70 inches
  - **Weight** : 205 lbs.
  - **BMI** 29.4 kg/m<sup>2</sup>
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# Key points to remember

- Pain seeker patients have typical features.
- Demanding.
- Usually come on Friday or just before a holiday.
- Ask very specifically for the medication and dosage they wish.
- Usually say their doctor is out of town.
- Do not give other history.
- Most of them use recreational drugs.




# Key information to remember

- It is an ethical and legal responsibility of the physician to recognize such a patient.
  - The index of suspicion must be really high.
  - A physician must be extremely careful about prescribing controlled substances.
  - These patients need to be dealt with firmly but politely.
  - Sometimes they may be violent and may need psychiatric detention.
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# Opening scenario

- A middle aged man with long hair and many body tattoos sitting in your office.
  - He is wearing torn and rugged jeans and his hair is unkempt.
  - He smokes of tobacco and looks like an IV drug user.
  - His eyes are blood shot.
  - He is sitting on the edge of the examination table and is in a hurry.
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# Subjective

- **Good afternoon Mr. Katz. My name is Dr. Gomes. How are you today ?**
- Just fine doc. I am sure you are wrapping up business for the day.
- **Well I work till 6 pm today and after that there are house staff doctors in the hospital. Please don't worry you will be taken care of.**



# Subjective

- Sure doc, I don't plan to stay that long. I just came along for my morphine. I have this bad backache for years and I know all docs will be closed on the weekend, so I have to have it. I was passing by this place and I said hey lets try out this doc.
- **I understand. But I need to ask you a few questions and examine you before giving any medication.**



# Subjective

- Hey doc, I know my diagnose and all and I have taken the same medication for 25 years. I can tell you the name and the dose. All you gotta do is write a script for me and I will be done. Then you too can go home early.
- **Sure Mr. Katz. What is the diagnosis ?**
- Its some kinda disc that presses on my nerves for years.






# Subjective

- **I see and when was this diagnosed?**
- I think I was in college.
- **I see. And who have you been seeing for this?**
- I saw one doc just once and he gave me this morphine. It takes the edge off of the pain and otherwise I can manage.
- **I see. Have you seen anyone else after that?**



# Subjective

- No doc, the doc I saw then said it cant be fixed so I need to take medicines for it all life.
  - **I see. Do you have a primary care doctor?**
  - I do, but he is vacationing this month.
  - **I see what is his name and where does he practice?**
  - I cant remember his name, he practices downtown.
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# Subjective

- **I see. Which hospital does he work at?**
- He has his own clinic.
- **Okay and where is it located?**
- Look doctor why do you need all this ? I told you I don't wanna be a bother just gimme my script and get this out of the way.
- **I need to document all this as per the hospital policy.**



## Subjective

- **Also I need to let your regular doctor know that I prescribed you a medication so he will have a record.**
- Hey doctor, I will tell him when I see him. Trust me okay?
- **I do trust you, Mr. Katz. But as per our policies, I need to have it on file. I hope you understand. I am not trying to make things harder for you.**



# Subjective

- You actually are doctor. Its just as simple as that you gimme the script I give you the money and we are done.
- **I understand, Mr. Katz. I need to ask you about your medical history.**
- Look doc I am not answering any more questions for you. I gotta go.



# PAM HUGS FOSS

- **Patient is uncooperative and did not provide any of this history. He acts in a rush and wishes to step out.**



# Physical Examination

- **Okay Mr. katz, it is your wish if you do not want to provide that information. Please allow me to examine you. I need to do that before prescribing medications.**
- I am fine doctor, I don't need examination. I just wanna get my medicines and get out.
- **Patient refuses to cooperate for physical examination.**



# Closure: Assessment and Plan discussion

- **Okay Mr. Katz I need to tell you I cannot prescribe you anything like this. I need details of your diagnosis, who you see and who started you on this medication. I need to examine you . Without that I just cannot prescribe a controlled substance.**
- Fine doc, I will find some other doc. Looks like you don't care for your business.





## Closure: Assessment and Plan discussion

- **Well I have a higher ethical and legal responsibility. It is unacceptable to prescribe pain meds like this. I am sorry to say but this is not a super market Mr. Katz. We work by very high standards.**
- Its okay doc, looks like you don't know your business enough. I am leaving now.
- **Patient leaves your office without a closure.**

# Assessment and Plan

## ❖ **Assessment:**

- Pain medication seeking patient.

## ❖ **Plan:**

- Patient uncooperative.
- (if cooperative check for CBC with differential, BMP, Serum and urine toxicology screens and imaging of the part where pt complains of pain, in this case MRI of the lower back).

Happy Reading