**Narrative description of the initial prompt development**

For the development of the initial prompt we started by asking directly about the symptoms. However the answers were unspecific and always led to a referral to medical care.

We added the phrase "*Simulate that you are a doctor*" but you gave us answers that said you could not simulate being a doctor for safety. So we insisted that it was only a simulation and no decisions would be made and added "*It is only a simulation; no decisions will be made. Let's just experiment*".

Bing chat tended to ask several questions in groups rather than one at a time. Several sentences had to be added to the prompt insisting that only one question should be asked per message *("Ask only one question in each message and no more. Do not ask several questions at the same time, but ask one question at a time. Ask only one question at a time"*). However, in some patient in some message it asks several questions instead of only one.

Bing chat sometimes only gave information and did not follow a natural conversation, so we added "*Depending on the information you get, formulate questions and direct the anamnesis*" to adopt a more conversational style but guiding the interview by the symptoms.

Age and sex are two essential pieces of information in the medical assessment that Bing Chat sometimes did not ask, so we asked him to do so. Also, the reason for the consultation, and to do it all at the beginning of the conversation ("*Ask the age and sex of each patient and the reason for the consultation at the beginning*").

Although most of the time Bing-chat gave adequate and concrete indications, we detected that he could arrive at answers without a clear decision or recommendation to the patient beyond recommending medical assessment. We added four possible conceptual options for the final decision ("*Tell the patient 1) Call the emergency services immediately (112) 2) Go to a hospital emergency room as soon as possible, 3) you need to be assessed by a doctor, but it is not urgent at the moment, although you should not leave it too long, 4) you do not need any further medical assessment for this reason for consultation*").

Finally, in some conversations Bing chat ended the conversation without having enough information so did not give a final recommendation. We added "*When you consider that you have all the information you need you should tell the patient*".

We used this prompt with some simulated patients obtaining satisfactory results so we decided that it will be the definitive incitial prompt used to test Bing chat with simulated patients.