



**SURGERY VIGNETTE  
Simulation (2-B)**

**Management of Small Bowel Obstruction (Surgical)**

THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS CORRESPOND TO A CLINICAL CASE SCENARIO THAT THE HEALTH WORKER COULD EXPECT TO OBSERVE IN THE HOSPITAL. READ THE CASE SCENARIOS AND QUESTIONS EXACTLY AS THEY ARE WRITTEN (EVERYTHING THAT IS IN **BOLD FONT**). DO NOT READ THE OPTIONS OF ANSWERS. FOR CERTAIN QUESTIONS, MULTIPLE ANSWERS ARE POSSIBLE; IN THIS CASE, CIRCLE ALL ANSWERS GIVEN BY THE HEALTH WORKER. AFTER THE HEALTH WORKER HAS FINISHED ANSWERING THE QUESTION, ASK "ANYTHING ELSE?" IF ADDITIONAL ANSWERS ARE GIVEN AT THAT TIME, MAKE DUE RECORD OF THEM ON THE SURVEY FORM. BE CAREFUL TO FOLLOW THE SKIPS AS THEY ARE MARKED. MAKE SURE THE HEALTH WORKER CANNOT SEE THE FORM YOU ARE FILLING.

**ATTENTION:** IN THE "INFORMATION" COLUMN, THERE IS INFORMATION ON THE CURRENT STATE OF THE PATIENT. THIS INFORMATION HAS TO BE PROVIDED, IF AND ONLY IF THE CLINICIAN SAYS HE WOULD ASK THE QUESTION OR PERFORM THE ACTION LISTED. IF THE CLINICIAN DOES NOT MENTION HE WILL ASK THE QUESTION OR PERFORM THE ACTION, THEN THE RESULT OF THAT QUESTION OR ACTION SHOULD ABSOLUTELY NOT BE SHARED WITH THE HEALTH WORKER.

FOR EXAMPLE IN Q101, IF THE HEALTH WORKER SAYS S/HE WOULD ASK ABOUT THE MEDICAL HISTORY, THEN YOU HAVE TO ASK THEM "WHAT KIND OF HISTORY WOULD YOU ASK ABOUT?". IF THE HEALTH WORKER DOES NOT SAY HE WOULD ASK ABOUT THE MEDICAL HISTORY, THEN YOU MUST NOT ASK THEM WHAT KIND OF HISTORY THEY WOULD ASK ABOUT. STILL IN Q101, IF THE HEALTH WORKER SAYS S/HE WOULD ASK ABOUT OTHER SYMPTOMS, THEN YOU HAVE TO TELL THEM THE SYMPTOMS. IF THE HEALTH WORKER DOES NOT SAY HE WOULD ASK ABOUT OTHER SYMPTOMS, THEN YOU MUST NOT TELL THEM ABOUT THOSE. MAKE SURE THE HEALTH WORKER CANNOT READ IT ON THE FORM EITHER.

DO NOT READ OPTIONS ALOUD. FOR EACH OPTION, NOTE WHETHER THE HEALTH WORKER MENTIONED THIS ACTION OR NOT.

RECORD TIME OF BEGINNING OF THE SIMULATION (HH:MM)    \_\_ \_\_ : \_\_ \_\_ AM/PM

**OBSERVER READ SCENARIO: A 40-year-old woman is admitted for stabbing abdominal pain, vomiting, abdominal distention and inability to pass flatus or stool for the last 12 hours.**

Question	Yes	No	Information (only if health worker asks specific question)	Go to	Verify Present/ Not Present
<b>Q101: OBSERVER: What do you do to assess this woman?</b> (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)					
A. History taking	1	0	<b>PROMPT: What kind of history would you ask about?</b>		N/A
a. Does the patient have a chart?	1	0	<b>Yes, the chart shows that she has had multiple abdominal surgeries, including an appendectomy, a total abdominal hysterectomy, a cholecystectomy, and most recently, an incisional hernia repair.</b>		N/A
b. Ask patient if she has had any surgeries.	1	0	<b>Patient responds: "Yes, I have had surgery on my stomach before, they took some things out."</b>		N/A
c. Ask patient to describe the pain.	1	0	<b>A strong pain, stabbing and paining all over the stomach.</b>		N/A
d. Ask patient what other symptoms she has had.	1	0	<b>Not moving bowels, no runny stomach (diarrhea), has been vomiting green/yellow, can't eat, skin has been hot at home (fever).</b>		N/A
B. Physical examination	1	0	<b>PROMPT: Please describe the things you would do.</b>		N/A
a. I would examine the Vital Signs.	1	0	<b>Heart Rate 110 Tachypnea 18 Temperature 38.9 degrees</b>		N/A
b. I would look at her overall clinical status:	1	0	<b>she is ill appearing, moaning in pain extremities are cool to the touch</b>		N/A
c. I would palpate her abdomen	1	0	<b>abdomen firm, rigid and distended with rebound tenderness and guarding</b>		N/A
d. I would <i>listen</i> to her stomach	1	0	<b>bowel sounds decreased and difficult to hear</b>		N/A
e. I would check her eyes and mouth for signs of dehydration	1	0	<b>Dry mucous membranes.</b>		N/A
f. Examine rectum	1	0	<b>No stool in rectal vault.</b>		N/A

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C. Lab tests			<b>PROMPT: Please list the tests you would ask for.</b>		
a. Full blood count (Complete blood count)	1	0			1 0
i. Hemoglobin/HCT	1	0	<b>Low: 24%, 8 gr/dl</b>		1 0
ii. White Blood Cell (WBC)	1	0	<b>Elevated count, 16,400</b>		1 0
iii. Red Blood Cell (RBC)	1	0	<b>Normal</b>		1 0
iv. Platelets	1	0	<b>Normal</b>		1 0
b. Hemoglobin/HCT (alone)	1	0	<b>Low: 24%, 8 gr/dl</b>		1 0
c. Microscopy	1	0	<b>PROMPT: Please list the tests you would ask for</b>		N/A
i. Malaria smear, M/S	1	0	<b>Normal, Negative</b>		1 0
ii. Malaria rapid diagnostic test (RDT)	1	0	<b>Normal, Negative</b>		1 0
d. Immunologic	1	0	<b>PROMPT: Please list the tests you would ask for</b>		N/A
i. HIV rapid testing	1	0	<b>Normal, Negative</b>		1 0
ii. Hepatitis B (HBsAG) and Hepatitis C (HCV) tests	1	0	<b>Normal, Negative</b>		1 0
e. Chemistry panels (Automatic analyzer)	1	0	<b>PROMPT: Please list the results you would ask for</b>		N/A
i. AST and ALT (liver enzymes)	1	0	<b>Normal</b>		1 0
ii. Amylase and Lipase (pancreatic enzymes)	1	0	<b>serum amylase and lipase markedly increased</b>		1 0
iii. Chemistry (sodium, potassium, chloride, bicarbonate)	1	0	<b>Normal</b>		1 0
iv. BUN and creatinine (renal function)	1	0	<b>Normal</b>		1 0
v. Serum bilirubin	1	0	<b>Normal</b>		1 0
vi. Blood glucose, RBS (fasting or random)	1	0	<b>Normal, 135 gr/dl</b>		1 0
f. Blood gas analysis or Electrolyte Panel	1	0	<b>Marked acidosis or low bicarbonate/acidosis (respectively)</b>		1 0
g. Urinalysis, U/A	1	0	<b>Normal, Negative</b>		1 0
h. Pregnancy test,	1	0	<b>PROMPT: Please list the tests you would ask for</b>	N/A	
i. MTT	1	0	<b>Normal, Negative</b>	1 0	
ii. HCG	1	0	<b>Normal, Negative</b>	1 0	
i. Imaging	1	0	<b>PROMPT: Please list the tests you would ask for</b>	N/A	
i. RUQ Ultrasound	1	0	<b>Normal</b>		1 0
ii. Abdominal X-ray	1	0	<b>PROMPT: What are you looking for?</b>	N/A	
1. Obstruction	1	0	<b>Obstruction Observed</b>	1 0	
2. Gas outside of abdominal wall	1	0	<b>Not seen</b>	1 0	
j. Other Tests and imaging	1	0	<b>PROMPT: Please list the tests you would ask for</b>		N/A
i. Other, specify: _____ _____ _____			<b>Normal</b> <b>Normal</b> <b>Normal</b>		1 0 1 0 1 0
D. I would call for assistance from another person	1	0	<b>PROMPT: Who would you call? Would you do anything else as well?</b>		N/A
a. Specify title _____					

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<b>Q102: What is your overall assessment of the woman's conditions (Stable, Guarded, Unstable or Critical) and what is her differential diagnosis?</b>					
A. Overall assessment					
a. Stable	1				N/A
b. Guarded	2				N/A
c. Unstable	3				N/A
d. Critical	4				N/A
e. Don't Know	5				N/A
B. Differential diagnosis(CHECK ALL ANSWERS GIVEN)					
a. Dehydration	1	0			N/A
b. Small bowel obstruction	1	0			N/A
i. Unspecified possible cause	1	0			N/A
ii. Due to adhesions	1	0			N/A
iii. Due to cancer	1	0			N/A
iv. Due to hernia (incarcerated or strangulated)	1	0			N/A
v. Due to scarring from previous surgeries	1	0			N/A
c. Risk of bowel ischemia and necrosis	1	0			N/A
d. Constipation	1	0			N/A
e. Hernia	1	0			N/A
f. Pancreatis	1	0			N/A
g. Trauma	1	0			N/A
h. Other, specify: _____ _____					N/A
<b>Q103: OBSERVER: What immediate steps would you take? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)</b>					
A. Call the attending physician	1	0		Q106	N/A
B. Call for consultation with surgeon	1	0		Q106	N/A
C. Resuscitate/Stabilize					
a. Immediate fluid resuscitation	1	0		Q106	N/A
b. Nasogastric decompression	1	0		Q106	N/A
c. Intravenous antibiotics	1	0		Q106	N/A
d. Foley catheter for urine output monitoring	1	0		Q106	N/A
D. Disposition				Q106	
a. Refer to other facility	1	0		Q106	N/A
b. Admit to ward	1	0		Q106	N/A
c. Put under close supervision/Intensive care	1	0		Q104b	N/A
d. Schedule a laparotomy	1	0		Q104b	N/A
e. Emergent laparotomy	1	0		Q104a	N/A
<b>Q104a: [If recommending immediate laparotomy] (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)</b>					
<b>1. What made you decide to perform a laparotomy?</b>					
A. History of previous surgeries	1	0			N/A
B. Tachycardia, hypotension, tachypnea	1	0			N/A
C. Evidence of dehydration	1	0			N/A
D. Abdominal exam - peritonitis	1	0			N/A
E. Inability to pass stool for the past 12 hours	1	0			N/A
F. Lab results					
a. Low hemoglobin (possible internal bleeding)	1	0			N/A
b. Elevated WBC	1	0			N/A

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<b>2. What signs would have made you decide to observe the patient rather than perform the surgery?</b>				
A. No tachypnea	1	0		N/A
B. No history of previous surgeries	1	0		N/A
C. No dehydration	1	0		N/A
D. Different lab results				
c. Normal hemoglobin	1	0		N/A
d. Normal WBC	1	0		N/A

Q104b: [If recommending observation or scheduling a laparotomy] (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

<b>1. What made you decide to put the patient under observation?</b>				
A. Tenderness, rather than pain	1	0		N/A
<b>2. What signs would have made you decide to perform an emergency surgery?</b>				
A. Fever	1	0		N/A
B. Different HR	1	0		N/A
C. Less benign abdominal exam	1	0		N/A
D. Other lab results				
a. Hemoglobin/Hematocrit	1	0		N/A
b. WBC	1	0		N/A
E. Different history of surgeries	1	0		N/A

Q105: OBSERVER: **What equipment or medicines would you have used in the management of this case that is either not present, or is not currently working in this facility?**

A. Other, specify: _____ _____ _____		N/A
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**OBSERVER: You mentioned some laboratory tests procedure as part of your examination [OBSERVER: CITE LAB TESTS MENTIONED BY WORKER IN Q101]. Can you verify that all of these tests are available at this facility? [OBSERVER: VERIFY WITH HEALTH WORKER]**

RECORD TIME OF END OF THE SIMULATION (HH:MM)	___ : ___ AM/PM
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GO BACK TO EACH ITEM IN THE SIMULATION THAT REQUIRES A PIECE OF EQUIPMENT OR A MEDICATION AND VERIFY THAT THE EQUIPMENT OR MEDICATION IS PRESENT.

PLEASE PROVIDE ANY FURTHER COMMENTS ON THE QUALITY OF CARE: