

Instructions to candidate – Aim for 8 minutes

You are a foundation doctor in a busy paediatric ward.

John Smith is a 5 year old boy. He was brought in by this nursery teacher who was concerned by the multiple bruises he has on his body. A nurse has examined him and he is clinically stable.

You are asked by the nurse to chat with John's mother, to find out the circumstances that lead to the bruising, address and manage her concerns.

At 7 minutes, the examiner will ask you questions.

SP script

Patient's name: John Smith (2 years old)

Mother: Sarah Smith

You are very concerned that you've been called by the ward clerk to come and see your little boy. You quickly ask the doctor if everything is alright with John.

You have no knowledge about John's bruises on his body. You know there are some bruising on this shins and elbows which have been there for a while, but not the ones on the body. He has wobbly legs and sometimes trips when he starts running. The ward nurse has so far told you that he has no temperature, no problems with his waterworks, and he is eating and drinking okay. This is the first time you know of this issue.

You are not sure if this is relevant to John but you realise he's been crying quite a bit recently when you get back from work at night. You think he's throwing a tantrum. You didn't ask your husband or your other children as you are too tired and just want to sleep when you get back home.

Background, you live with your husband (James) and 3 other children. They are aged 5, 4 and 1. Your husband is a loving father. Unfortunately, he was made redundant a month ago and is struggling to find a job. He worked as a financial advisor previously. Financially, it has been a struggle, which saddens you a little. As a result, you have decided to take two jobs. You work 9-5pm at an office as an administrator and do extra shifts at a nearby pub 7-10pm, 5 days a week. You're glad that your husband could care for your children so you don't need to spend on childcare. You know living with 4 small children can make your hands full. Previously, you could afford a child minder but not anymore. Your relatives live quite far from you so there's no support from them.

When asked specifically, you realise seeing more alcohol bottles on the kitchen table recently and your husband seems a bit tipsy/drunken when you are back from work on some days. There are more cigarette buds lying around too. Normally you both share a bottle or two of wine during the weekend. Your husband smokes about 10 a day but not you. You both don't do drugs.

PMH: Nil, uncomplicated pregnancy and birth (all natural delivery), vaccination up to date and no concern on milestone

DH: Nil + NKDA

SH: lives with both parents and three siblings in a terrace house.

ICE:

- I – You are very curious to find out what's causing the bruising
- C – You are concerned this could spread to your other children. You don't want to see them getting the bruises too (you haven't spotted any). As far as you know, they have not mentioned anything concerning to you.
- E – you are hoping that you can sort this out ASAP as you need to leave soon for work

Question

- You ask the doctor what will be done next?
 - If the doctor mentions safeguarding referral, you are concerned why this is needed
 - You give your consent for this referral once the doctor has given an appropriate explanation

Questions:

1. What will you do next after this consultation?

- a) Hospital safeguarding team
- b) Bloods; checking FBC and coagulation

2. What assessment would you or your senior colleague like to do next?

- a) Child protection medical assessment

Area	Clear Fail	Fail	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent
PC & HPC: Good range of open and closed questions asked.					
PMH & DH					
SH					
FH					
ICE					
Differential dx					
Investigations					
Rapport/communication skill					
Overall					