

Medical Terminology Hunt

Directions: Read the following excerpt from a History and Physical examination. Highlight the medical terms used and write the definitions on the back of the paper, using a medical dictionary. Identify similarities in the words highlighted.

Situation: Mr. Jones is a 65 year-old man who called 911 because he was having severe “chest pain”. When the paramedics arrived, they found him lying on the couch in a semi-Fowler’s position, unable to lie in the supine position because of dyspnea. His chest pain had been sub-sternal, but was somewhat better. He had an additional complaint gastrointestinal distress, with one episode of vomiting. His skin was pale, cool and diaphoretic with circum-oral pallor. His EKG showed NSR and tachycardia at 96 beats/minute. He was hypotensive at 98/60. He was afebrile. He had 3+ pitting edema of both extremities and pedal pulses were diminished. Respirations were tachypneic and shallow with audible wheezes.

Situation: You are planning to come to school for a lab test this afternoon and your 4 year-old child awakens feeling sick. You will not be able to take him to day care because he is febrile at 101° F. He is tachypneic with supra-sternal, supra-clavicular and intercostals retraction. His skin is warm, flushed and diaphoretic. He has rhinorrhea and a “barking” type cough that is productive of tenacious, greenish colored sputum. He is also pulling at his ear & crying. You deduce that he is anorexic and dehydrated and you offer him a Popsicle and he refuses. You wonder if he has a cold or if he has otitis media, pharyngitis, tracheitis, bronchitis or pneumonitis. What should you do next?

Answer Key: Medical Terminology Hunt

Directions: Read the following excerpt from a History and Physical examination. Highlight the medical terms used and write the definitions on the back of the paper. Then write a brief paragraph using common language describing the situation.

Situation: Mr. Jones is a 65 year-old man who called 911 because he was having severe “chest pain”. When the paramedics arrived, they found him lying on the couch in a **semi-Fowler’s position**, unable to lie in the **supine position** because of **dyspnea**. His chest pain had been **sub-sternal**, but was somewhat better. He had an additional complaint **gastro-intestinal distress**, with one episode of vomiting. His skin was pale, cool and **diaphoretic** with **circum-oral pallor**. His **EKG** showed **NSR** and **tachycardia** at 96 beats/minute. He was **hypotensive** at 98/60. He was **afebrile**. He had **3+ pitting edema** of both extremities and **pedal pulses** were diminished. Respirations were **tachypneic** and shallow with audible **wheezes**.

Common Language: Mr. Jones is a 65 year-old man who called 911 because he was having severe “chest pain.” When paramedics arrived, they found him lying on the couch with his **head elevated at a 45° angle**, unable to lie flat because of **difficult breathing**. His chest pain had been located **beneath his breast -bone**, but was somewhat better. He had an additional complaint of an **upset stomach** and had vomited one time. His skin was pale, cool and **sweaty** with **pale lips**. His heart tracing showed a normal rhythm and a fast rate at 96 beats a minute. His **blood pressure was low** at 98/60. His **temperature was normal**. His lower legs and feet were **swollen** and it was **difficult to feel the pulses in his feet and ankles**. He was **breathing rapidly** and shallow. You could hear **whistling and snoring noises** each time he took a breath.

Situation: You are planning to come to school for a lab test this afternoon and your 4 year-old child awakens feeling sick. You will not be able to take him to day care because he is **febrile** at 101° F. He is **tachypneic** with **supra-sternal, supra-clavicular and intercostals retraction**. His skin is warm, flushed and **diaphoretic**. He has **rhinorrhea** and a “barking” type cough that is productive of **tenacious, greenish colored sputum**. He is also pulling at his ear & crying. You deduce that he is **anorexic and dehydrated** and you offer him a Popsicle and he refuses. You wonder if he has a cold or if he has **otitis media, pharyngitis, tracheitis, bronchitis or pneumonitis**. What should you do next?

Common Language: You are planning to come to school for a lab test this afternoon and your 4 year-old child awakens feeling sick. You will not be able to take him to day care because he has a **fever of 101 °F**. He is **breathing rapidly and with difficulty**. With each breath, you can see a **sinking inward of the spaces just above the breast bone, above the collar bones and between the ribs**. His skin is warm, flushed and **sweaty**. He has a **runny nose** and a “barking” type cough that is productive of **thick, greenish colored mucous**. He is also pulling at his ear & crying. You deduce that he is **has no appetite** and has not taken **enough fluids** and you offer him a Popsicle and he refuses. You wonder if he has a cold or if he has **an ear infection, throat infection, infection of his upper airway, infection of the small airways in the lungs or an infection of lung tissue**. What should you do next?