

# **CLINICAL SKILLS (DME 4115/3125)**

## **History Taking Session**

### **Introduction**

-Establish a rapport with the patient (Greet the patient, introduce yourself, state your role and gain consent).

### **Patient's Demographic Information**

Name;

Age;

Sex;

Religion;

Tribe;

Residence;

Language of Interview;

Informant;

Date of Admission;

Date of Clerking;

Referral;

### **Chief Complaint (s)**

*AAs to use cough as chief complaint*

- Brief bulleted primary complaint(s) in patient's words – including Duration.

### **History of Presenting Illness (HPI)**

-Inquire about patient's state of health prior to the current presentation.

-Develop symptoms in chronological order using patient's own words.

-Use OPQRST or SOCRATES to develop symptoms.

-Inquire about Constitutional symptoms.

NB: HPI should be recorded in paragraph format.

### **Review of Systems**

-State system(s) reviewed in the HPI

RS - cough, chest pain, dyspnoea

CVS - Palpitations, orthopnoea, body swelling, Paroxysmal Nocturnal Dyspnoea (PND), chest pain, easy fatiguability

CNS – Headache, Syncope, convulsions, difficulty hearing, blurred vision, limb weakness

GIT – Abd. Pain, Nausea, Vomiting, Jaundice, Abd swelling, diarrhoea/constipation

GUT – Frequency, Hematuria, Discharge, Dysuria, Menstruating? If female.

MSS – Joint Pain, Joint Swelling, Body rash.

### **Past Medical and Surgical History**

- Inquire about DM, Epilepsy, Asthma, TB, HTN, RVD, SCD, COVID-19

-Previous hospital admissions (if any), and reasons for admission.

-Surgical Hx

### **Drug History**

-Current Medication.

-Past Medication, if known.

-Use of Herbal Medication.

-Allergies

### **Family History**

- Inquire about family Hx of chronic illness such as DM, Epilepsy, Asthma, TB, HTN, SCD (DEATHS), etc.

- Hx of similar presentation in family

### **Social- Economic History**

-Marital Status

-Occupation

-Alcohol – (UNITS OF ALCOHOL calculation)

-Smoking – (PACK-YEAR Hx calculation)

*AAs to explain subjectivity of the following questions*

-Travel Hx

-House? Rooms? Roofing? Number of Occupants? Ventilation?

-Water Source? Treated or untreated prior to use?

-Type of Toilet?

### **Summary**

-Important Positives and Negatives.

**Provisional Diagnosis;**

**Differential Diagnosis;**

UNITS OF ALCOHOL= (Percent alcohol/100)x volume of alcohol in  
mls x (1 alcohol unit/10mls alcohol)

PACK-YEAR= (No. cigarettes smoked/ No. of cigarettes in a pack) x  
No. of years smoked

*-NB. No. of cigarettes in a pack is 20*