

Patient Report Conversation

A: Have a seat. How are you today?
B: Thank you. Not so good. I feel really sick.
A: Okay. Well, just relax. We're going to help you as best we can. What's your name?
B: My name is Mary Alonias.
A: Nice to meet you, Mary. I'm nurse Shepherd. Mary, I'd like to take your temperature okay?
B: Okay.
A: Just hold this thermometer under your arm. There you go.



A: Mary, I need to ask you a few questions. Could you spell your name for me please?
B: Sure. It's A-l-o-n-i-a-s.
A: Thank you. And how old are you?
B: I'm 34.
A: Great. Now, what seems to be wrong?
B: I'm really cold but I can't stop sweating.
A: When did you start feeling this way?
B: About four or five days ago.
A: Alright. I'll take the thermometer now. It looks like you are running a slight fever.

A: Have you had this problem before?
B: No, this is the first time.
A: How does your throat feel?
B: Sore.
A: Any trouble breathing?
B: A little.
A: How is your nose?
B: It's stuffed up.
A: Any trouble with urine or stool?
B: No.
A: How about your skin?
B: No problems.
A: Any pain?
B: Yeah. I'm sore all over.
A: Is there anything else?
B: No, thank you.
A: Ok, let's have you lie down and the doctor will be in to see you in a few minutes.

A patient report form titled "Patient Report". It contains various fields for patient information and medical history, including "Name of Patient", "Date", "Age", "Sex", "Location", "What is the main concern or problem right now?", "When did it begin?", "When?", "How long?", "How often?", "What is wrong or different from normal in any of the following?", "Mouth and throat:", "Nose:", "Breathing:", "Urine:", "Stool:", "Eyes:", "Ears:", "Skin:", "Any Pain?", "Where?", "Taking any medication:", and "Meds:". The form is tilted slightly to the right.

Patient Report

Written by: _____

Date: _____

Name of Patient: _____ Age: _____

Male: _____ Female: _____ Location: _____

What is the main sickness or problem right now? _____

When did it begin? _____

Has patient had the same problem before? _____ When? _____

Fever _____ For how long? _____

What is wrong or different from normal in any of the following?

Mouth and throat: _____

Breathing: _____ Nose: _____

Urine: _____

Stool: _____

Eyes: _____

Ears: _____

Skin: _____

Pain: _____

Where? _____

Medication: _____

Memo:

Name:	Bob Hostings	Age:	52
Symptoms:	sick	fever	
When:	Tuesday	1st Time:	no
Throat:	scratchy	Nose:	runny
Urine:	np	Stool:	np
Skin:	np	Eyes:	red
Ears:	blocked	Pain:	sore throat
Med:	none	Other:	np

Name:	Bernardo Deitric	Age:	24
Symptoms:	nauseous		
When:	an hour ago	1st Time:	yes
Throat:	np	Nose:	np
Urine:	np	Stool:	np
Skin:	red, swollen	Eyes:	puffy
Ears:	np	Pain:	body pain
Med:	none	Other:	may have been bit

Name:	Domenic Ingles	Age:	33
Symptoms:	chest pain		
When:	a few hours ago	1st Time:	yes
Throat:	np	Nose:	np
Urine:	np	Stool:	np
Skin:	np	Eyes:	np
Ears:	np	Pain:	arms / body
Med:	hight blood pressure	Other:	np

Name:	Rudy Hollister	Age:	33
Symptoms:	nauseous		
When:	an hour ago	1st Time:	no
Throat:	np	Nose:	np
Urine:	np	Stool:	constipated
Skin:	red, swollen	Eyes:	bloodshot
Ears:	np	Pain:	cramps
Med:	ulcer medicine	Other:	sick after taking meds

Name:	Liza Grogg	Age:	28
Symptoms:	nauseous		
When:	usually in the morning	1st Time:	no
Throat:	np	Nose:	np
Urine:	often	Stool:	np
Skin:	np	Eyes:	np
Ears:	np	Pain:	np
Med:	none	Other:	some weight gain

Name:	Casey Howard	Age:	32
Symptoms:	itchy		
When:	yesterdaay	1st Time:	yes
Throat:	np	Nose:	runny
Urine:	np	Stool:	np
Skin:	red / itchy	Eyes:	puffy
Ears:	np	Pain:	skin
Med:	none	Other:	some allergies

Name:	Ekene	Age:	25
Symptoms:	fever	chills	
When:	this week	1st Time:	yes
Throat:	dry	Nose:	np
Urine:	np	Stool:	diarrhea
Skin:	very dry	Eyes:	dry
Ears:	np	Pain:	craps, headache
Med:	hight blood pressure	Other:	very tired

Name:	Nakato	Age:	27
Symptoms:	back pain		
When:	this morning	1st Time:	yes
Throat:	np	Nose:	np
Urine:	np	Stool:	np
Skin:	np	Eyes:	np
Ears:	np	Pain:	sharp back pain
Med:	pain medicine	Other:	work a lot

Name:	Esi	Age:	19
Symptoms:	dizzy	fever	chills
When:	today	1st Time:	yes
Throat:	np	Nose:	np
Urine:	np	Stool:	np
Skin:	dry / hot	Eyes:	dry / red
Ears:	np	Pain:	headache
Med:	none	Other:	was outside in the heat

Name:	Lesedi	Age:	41
Symptoms:	lethargic	no appetite	
When:	last week	1st Time:	yes
Throat:	np	Nose:	np
Urine:	np	Stool:	np
Skin:	swollen / itchy	Eyes:	np
Ears:	np	Pain:	headache
Med:	none	Other:	some allergies

Name:	IBongoni	Age:	38
Symptoms:	dizzy	bleeding	
When:	an hour ago	1st Time:	yes
Throat:	np	Nose:	np
Urine:	np	Stool:	np
Skin:	sweating a lot	Eyes:	blurry
Ears:	ringing	Pain:	headache
Med:	none	Other:	bleeding from head

Name:	Isaka	Age:	41
Symptoms:			
When:	last week	1st Time:	yes
Throat:	fuzzy tongue	Nose:	yes
Urine:	little	Stool:	constipated
Skin:	flushed	Eyes:	bloodshot
Ears:	np	Pain:	muscle pain
Med:	none	Other:	none

About the worksheet

This is, as I often say, language I hope students never need. For most people it's low-frequency language but if you have nurses or medical people in your class this might be an interesting chance to use language from their work. In my case, I used this with groups of trainees preparing to go overseas to work in Africa.

Note that most of the patient language in the conversation is very limited. This is intentional. This kind of interview is set up purposefully to make it as easy for the sick person or victim as possible. They should only have to say a very little bit.

The patient report worksheet is based on a similar sheet provided in Doctors Without Borders.

Like this? Want to see more like it? Notice a typo or mistake or have a suggestion for making it better? Get in touch:

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