

Prepare for

Part E (Investigations)

Practice Assessment, 2027 Exit Exam

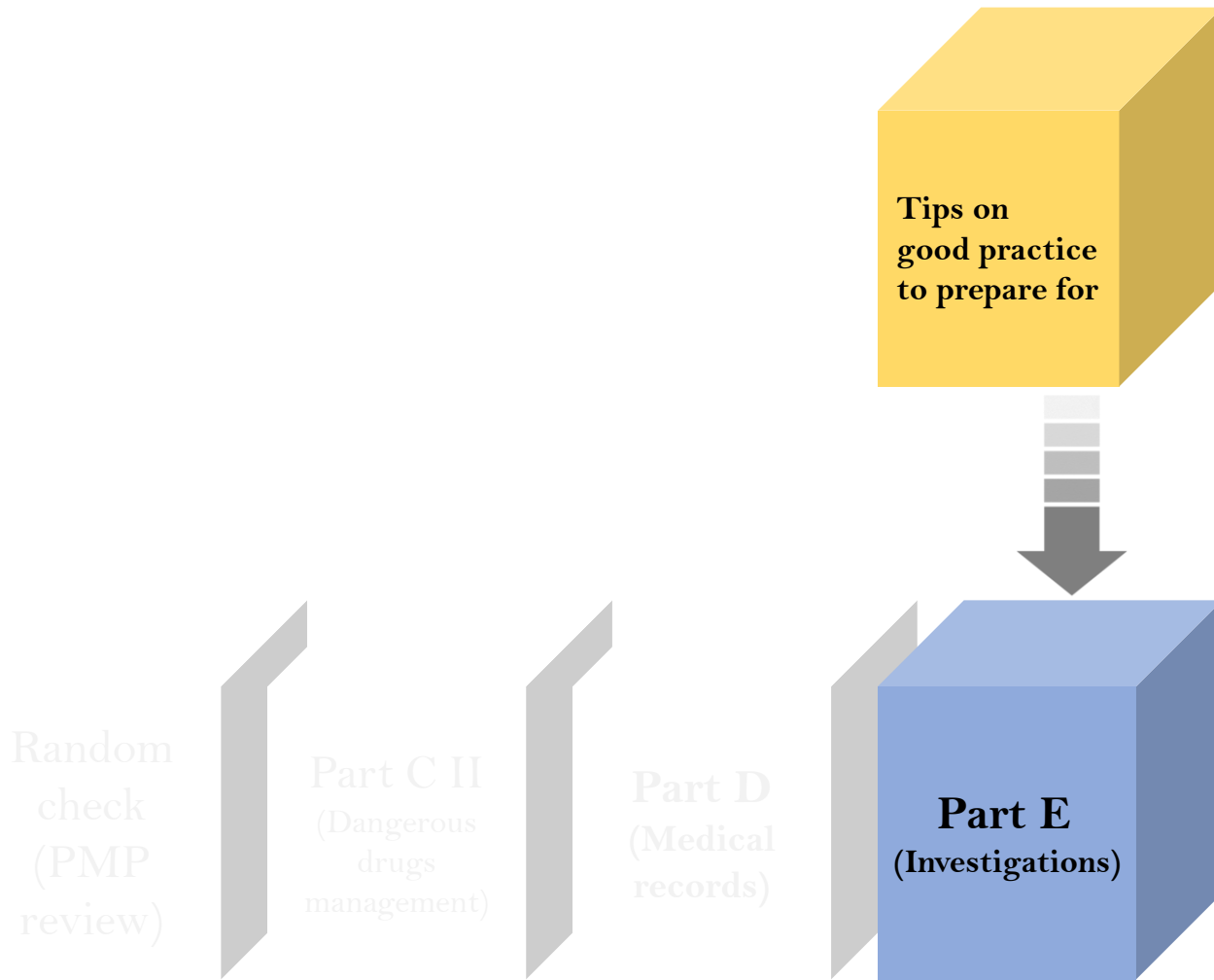
In the following pages:

Candidate needs to
prepare

Tips on good
practice for
Candidate

Examiner will
assess

Consensus /
recommendation in
marking

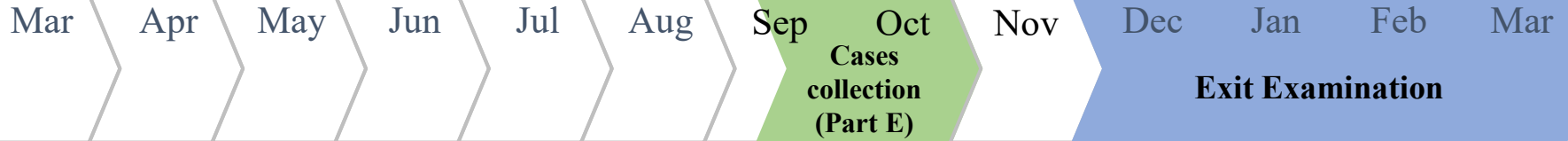


Prepare for Part E (Investigations)

Higher Training 2nd year

2026

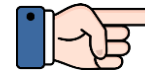
2027



10 cases



Medical records



Attachment 13

Case summary



Summary Table

Case no.	Diagnosis/condition/initial investigation	REF ID Code	Task/assessment
1	Intoxication	1.10 (case history)	OSD, LMPH, SPE, LCM, MCTE, DVT
2	Acute/Chronic renal failure	1.10 (case history)	OSD, Anaphylaxis, SIRS, SIRS, SIRS
3	Post-operative haemorrhage	1.10 (case history)	OSD, DVT, LCM, MCTE, DVT
4	Acute/Chronic renal failure	1.10 (case history)	OSD, Anaphylaxis, SIRS, SIRS, SIRS
5	Septic shock	1.10 (case history)	OSD, Anaphylaxis, SIRS, SIRS, SIRS
6	Septic shock	1.10 (case history)	OSD, Anaphylaxis, SIRS, SIRS, SIRS
7	Septic shock	1.10 (case history)	OSD, Anaphylaxis, SIRS, SIRS, SIRS
8	Septic shock	1.10 (case history)	OSD, Anaphylaxis, SIRS, SIRS, SIRS
9	Septic shock	1.10 (case history)	OSD, Anaphylaxis, SIRS, SIRS, SIRS
10	Septic shock	1.10 (case history)	OSD, Anaphylaxis, SIRS, SIRS, SIRS

The Cases



- Had investigations ordered and followed up by you
- Can come from more than one clinic; however, all the medical records must be available at the Exam venue on the Exam day
- Ten cases required

The date you first see the patients and order investigations



Can be

any date before the Exit Exam application deadline (~ *1st working day of November*)

i.e. can be those patients that you ordered investigations in the coming months (March, April, May, June, July, August...)
who expected to have follow up of the investigation results in the 'Case collection period'

Follow up of the investigations



Must be

- within the cases collection period
- documented by the candidate on the medical records



Can be

in the form of:

- Face to face consultations ; *if not feasible,*
- Telephone / electronic communications



Cases Collection period

- **A six weeks period , ending at the Exit application deadline**

e.g. 20 September to 31 October in the previous years

Exact dates will be announced in the coming Pre-Exit Workshop in August

Types of cases can be submitted for PA (Part E)

For individual case



Can be

- Patient's complaint(s) in episodic/ regular visit
- Monitoring of existing / chronic medical condition



Cannot be, only, for following situation:

- Health screening / Medical assessment
- Monitoring of potential side effects of medication / treatment in asymptomatic patients,
e.g. RFT after using ACEI; Blood liver enzymes after statins; CBP to screen neutropenia on carbimazole
- where consensus among assessors (PA Examiners) that investigation is not necessary, **the current example:**
Urine routine microscopy / culture in female uncomplicated cystitis

Types of cases can be submitted for PA (Part E)

Cases must be a mix of clinical problems (i)

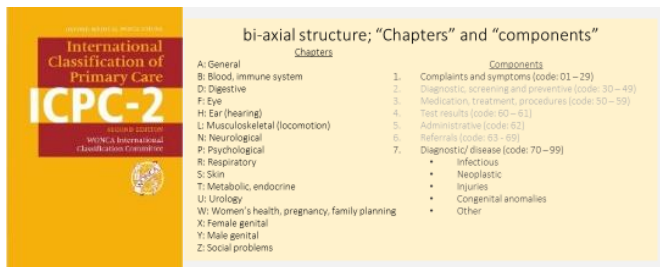


Must

follow the regulations listed below:

For each case

- give **one** ICPC-2 code to the Provisional diagnosis / main condition that necessitate the investigation(s); e.g. T90, R74
- show the code on your Case Summaries and the Summary Table (Attachment 13)



Coding according to the 'body / system' as possible

Types of cases can be submitted for PA (Part E)

Cases must be a mix of clinical problems (ii)



Must

follow the regulations listed below:

Among the ten cases

- No more than two cases should be the same **ICPC - 2 “Chapter”**
(the alphabet)
- No more than one T-90 (type II diabetes mellitus) is allowed
- No more than one K-86 (uncomplicated hypertension) is allowed

Please carefully choose the cases and give appropriate ICPC coding



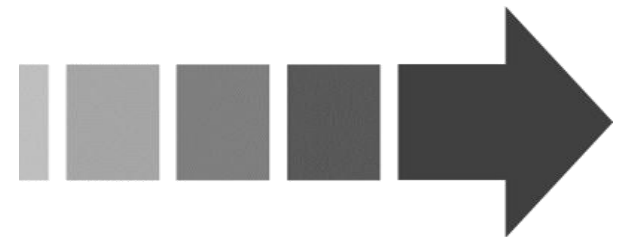
- Unsuitable case(s)
- Non-compliance with the ICPC-coding requirements



Penalty!

Pro-rata deduction of
Part E total Score

- Usually Examiners will not assess the accuracy of the ICPC-2 coding given in the ten cases
- Unless special situation occurs



Non-compliance with ICPC coding requirement (i)

10 investigation list

Case	Provisional diagnosis / chief condition requiring investigations	ICPC-2 code	Investigation performed:
1	Bronchitis	R78	NPS for respiratory virus
2	Fish bone ingestion	D79	Xray neck
3	Cystitis	U71	MSU
4	Small joint pain	L20	Blood test
5	Fever	A03	NPS for respiratory virus
6	Pregnancy	W78	PT test
7	Fracture little toe	L17	Xray
8	Kidney stone	U14	Urogram
9	Colitis	D06	USG abd
10	Appendicitis	D88	CT abd

Three Cases coded the same ICPC-2 'Chapter' (D);
→ Pro-rata deduction of total mark of Part E

Non-compliance with ICPC coding requirement (ii)

Case	Provisional diagnosis / chief condition requiring investigations	ICPC-2 code	Investigation performed:
1	Hyperthyroidism	T85	Thyroid function test (TSH and free T4)
2	Left little finger injury	L76	X-ray left little finger
3	Hypokalaemia	A91	Renal function test
4	Vulvar itchy , provisional diagnosis was Genital candidiasis	X72	high vaginal swab, endocervical swab
5	Increased vaginal discharge	X14	high vaginal swab, endocervical swab
6	Low back pain	L03	X-ray lumbar spine
7	Finger nodule	S04	X-ray left hand
8	Impaired liver function	D97	Blood for liver function tests (ALT, AST, ALP, GGT, HBsAg)
9	Proteinuria hypokalaemia	U98 A91	Mid-stream urine microscopy and culture, renal function test, urine microalbumin
10	Left hand injury	A80	X-ray left hand and thumb

- These two Cases were considered the same ICPC-2 'Chapter' (either L or A)
- In the presence of Case 3 (A91) and Case 6 (L03);
- → Pro-rata deduction of total mark of Part E

Point of Care Tests (POCT)



Must

follow the regulations listed below:

Cases using point of care tests (POCT) ONLY,
except ECG,
are not eligible for Part E exam

Some examples of Point of care tests (POCT) in primary care settings:

Type of POCT	Example	Results format	Remarks / comments
A. Strip-based	Urine pregnancy test Urine dipstick analyses Detection of stool occult blood Detection of infectious agents in swab material	Simple visualization / readout from the test strip	
B. Unit-use analyzer (Single-use test strips + Reader)	Glucometers	Readout from the analyzer / device	
	HemoCue Hb 301 System	Printout	
C. Bench-top analyzer	Spectrophotometry: e.g. Reflotron	Printout	
D. ECG		Printout	
E. Spirometry		Printout	
F. Imaging	Point of care Ultrasound scan	Printout Video recording	

Carefully choose the Cases

Choose cases that show your competency , not weakness

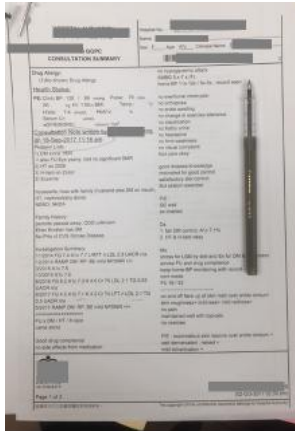


Start looking for Cases that have the potential to submit for PA (Part E) now

The medical records required for Part E (i)

The format

paper



Print-out from
computer system

or



Handwritten
records

~~on the computer
screen~~



The medical records required for Part E (ii)

The content of each medical record for assessment should at least include:

<u>Consultation note</u>		Patient: XXX M/72 No: GK 123984
<u>Dr. Candidate</u>		
1 Sep 2019		
Retired seafarer With wife. C/O: progressive poor memory 6/12		
e.g. confused on date/ events...		
.....ADL independent, went out for lunch / market by self...		
Quitted smoking / drinking since retired age 60		
Exercise: nil regularly		
PE: GC sat, normal gait BP 129/78 P 89 euthyroid....		
--- AMT 6/10		
Imp: cognitive impairment/ ? Dementia or MCI		
Mx:		
Brief explain cogn. Impairment with pamphlet		
Bld test (CBC, L/RFT, FBS, Lipids, TFT, Vit B12,folate, VDRL)		
FU 3/52		

<u>Lab report</u>
Date: 4 Sep 2019
COPY

<u>Consultation note</u>		Patient: XXX M/72 No: GK 123984
<u>Dr. Candidate</u>		
21 Sep 2019		
with wife and daughter today		
Consult. 1/9/ 2019 refers;		
Dementia bld work up (4 Sep 2019): CBC, L RFT, TFT, Vit B12, folate: N; VDRL: no-reactive		
Daughter concerned		
Imp: cognitive impairment/ likely MCI		
Mx:		
Suggest SFI CT brain; relatives need time to think about		
Encourage regular social activities / exercise. : e.g. visit nearby elderly community center		
Refer:		
Occ therapist (assessment and training)		
Geri SOPC		
FU 12/52		

<u>Referral letter</u>
To: Geriatrics SOPC
Date: 21 Sep 2019
COPY

The first consultation: investigation initiated / ordered

The follow up: key investigation findings documented; management offered

As applicable according to the follow up management offered

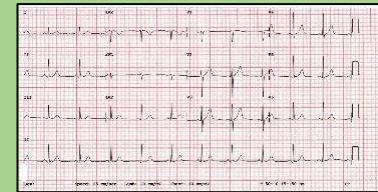
The medical records required for Part E (iii)

About the investigation reports:

Lab report
Date: 4 Sep 2019

COPY

Copy of investigation reports can be:



CT scan
Report

Ultrasound
scan
report

X-ray
report

For plain X-Ray: if report not available

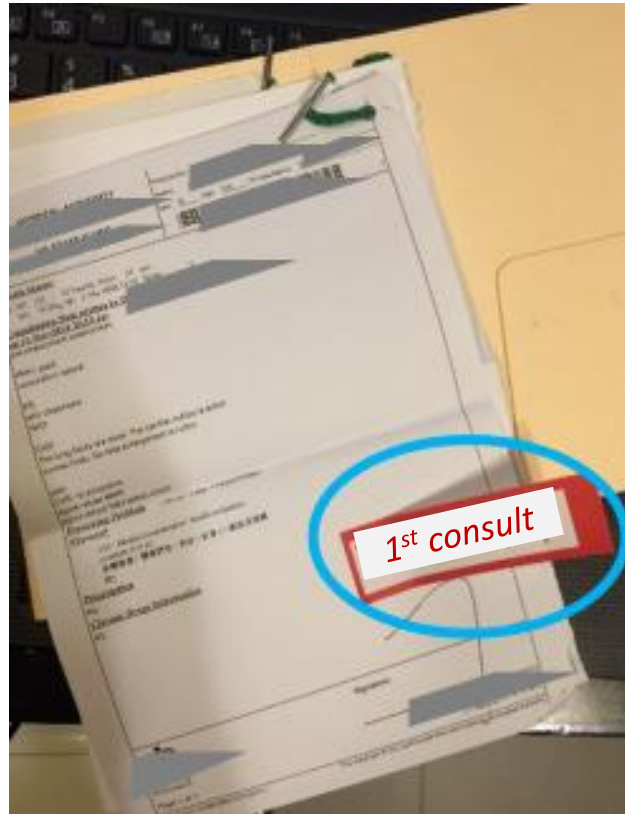


OR



The medical records required for Part E (iv)

Suggestions paper flags the pages for Examiners



Attachment 13

- Case summaries & a Summary Table of the ten patients
- To be submitted at the Exit Exam application (deadline: 1st working day of November)

Case summary

The image shows a stack of ten case summary forms. The top form is a template with the following structure:

CASE NO. 1	Patient's initials	Clinical record number	Sex	Age
Professional diagnosis / Chief condition requiring investigation (State of the consultation: 00/AAA/YYYY)			ICPC-2 code	
Investigation performed				
Results				
Follow-up (date: 00/AAA/YYYY)				
Comments				

Summary Table

Summary table

Case no.	Diagnosis/condition requiring investigation	ICPC-2 Code	Tests ordered
1	melaise	A04 (weakness/tiredness)	CBC, L/RFT, TPT, UrineC/ST, CR
2	Anemia? Large bowel pathology	B82 (anemia other/ unspecified)	CBC, Fe-profile, CEA, Stool OB X 3
3	Post-prandial dyspepsia	D07 (dyspepsia/ indigestion)	OGD, US upper abdomen
4	Annual hypertension check	K80 (uncomplicated hypertension)	RFT, FBS, lipid profile, Urine Protein
5	Sprained ankle	L77 (sprain/ strain of ankle)	XR ankle
6	Low back pain	L05 (low back symptoms/ complaints)	XR L5 spine
7	Hyperlipidemia, newly started on statins	T93 (lipid disorder)	Lipid profile, ALT
8	Dystrophic toenails	S22 (nail symptoms/ complaints)	Nail clipping for fungal culture
9	Amenorrhea, pregnancy test negative	X05 (menstruation absent/ scanty)	FSH, LH, Progesteron, TPT, US pelvis, PAP smear
10	Hyperthyroidism on treatment (carbamazole)	T85 (hyperthyroidism)	Free T4, TSH

Attachment 13: Case summary

CLASSIC 1	Patient 1 initials	Clinic record numbers	Sex	Age
Provisional diagnosis / Chief condition requiring investigations (date of the consultation: DD/MM/YYYY)			ICPC-2 code	
Investigations performed:				
Results:				
Follow up: (date: DD/MM/YYYY)				
Comments:				

Standard format

Confidentiality:
Do not include
patient's name, HKID

sample

Sample Case Summary for each patient (Attachment 13)

Case No: <i>6</i>	Patient initials: <i>LKH</i>	Clinic record number: <i>GOSY 1810XY21</i>	Sex: <i>M</i>	Age: <i>83</i>
Provisional diagnosis / Chief condition requiring investigations: (date of the consultation: <i>DD/MM/YYYY</i>): <i>Weight loss, ? Bowel pathology</i> <i>C/O Weight loss 6 to 7 lb in last 3/12</i> <i>B O change from daily to once every 3/7</i> <i>PE GC sat, mild pallor, abd soft non-tender</i> <i>/ no mass....PR: empty no mass felt</i>			ICPC-2 code <i>T08 (weight loss)</i>	
Investigations performed: <i>CBC, CEA, thyroid function (TSH), stool Occult blood X 3</i>			<div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px;"> <p># Less than 300 words Section(s) grossly exceed the words limit may be blocked and cannot be seen by the Examiners</p> </div>	
Results: <i>CBC: Hb 9.8 (low), WBC 4.8, Platelet count 345, CEA 2.0 (ref < 3.0), TSH normal, Stool OB +ve X 1</i>				
Follow up: (date: <i>DD/MM/YYYY</i>) <i>Results informed</i> <i>Discussed with patient and daughter...</i> <i>Mx: referral to Surgical SOPC (seek early appointment)</i>				
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optional; marks will not be deducted for leaving this section blank # • Can include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ discussion on the investigation justification, limitations of the performance, area of improvement, possible remedial actions ○ <i>clinic protocols, departmental guidelines, literature references that support the investigations / management chosen</i> 				

Attachment 13: Summary Table

Summary table

Case no.	Diagnosis/condition requiring investigation	ICPC-3 Code	Tests ordered
1	malaise	A 04 (weakness/ tiredness)	OBC, L/RFT, TPT, UrineC/ST, CGR
2	Anemia? Large bowel pathology	B 82 (anemia other/ unspecified)	OBC, Fe-profile, CEA, Stool OB X 3
3	Post-prandial dyspepsia	D 07 (dyspepsia/ indigestion)	OGD, US upper abdomen
4	Annual hypertension check	E 88 (uncomplicated hypertension)	RFT, FBS, lipid profile, Urine Protein
5	Sprained ankle	L 77 (sprain/ strain of ankle)	XR ankle
6	Low back pain	L 88 (low back symptoms/ complaints)	XR L5 spine
7	Hyperlipidemia newly started on statins	T 85 (lipid disorder)	Lipid profile, ALT
8	Dystrophic toe nails	S 33 (nail symptoms/ complaints)	Nail clipping for fungal culture
9	Amenorrhea, pregnancy test negative	K 05 (menstruation absent/ scanty)	FSH, LH, Prolactin, TPT, US pelvis; PAP smear
10	Hyperthyroidism on treatment (carbimazole)	T 85 (hyperthyroidism)	Free T4, TSH

Standard format

Confidentiality:
Do not include
 patient's name, HKID

sample

Sample Summary table (Attachment 13)

Summary table

Case no.	Diagnosis/ condition requiring investigation	ICPC-2 Code	Tests ordered
1	malaise	A 04 (weakness / tiredness)	CBC, L/RFT, TFT, Urine C/ST, CXR
2	Anemia ? Large bowel pathology	B 82 (anemia other/ unspecified)	CBC, Fe-profile, CEA, Stool OB X 3
3	Post-prandial dyspepsia	D 07 (dyspepsia / indigestion)	OGD, US upper abdomen
4	Annual hypertension check	K 86 (uncomplicated hypertension)	RFT, FBS, lipid profile, Urine Protein
5	Sprained ankle	L 77 (sprain / strain of ankle)	XR ankle
6	Low back pain	L 03 (low back symptoms / complaints)	XR LS spine
7	Hyperlipidemia, newly started on statins	T 93 (lipid disorder)	Lipid profile , ALT
8	Dystrophic toe nails	S 22 (nail symptoms / complaints)	Nail clipping for fungal culture
9	Amenorrhea, pregnancy test negative	X 05 (menstruation absent / scanty)	FSH, LH, Prolactin, TFT; US pelvis; PAP smear
10	Hyperthyroidism on treatment (carbimazole)	T 85 (hyperthyroidism)	Free T4, TSH

Monitoring of possible side effects of medication/ treatment in asymptomatic patients added

OK

Health screening added

OK

Attachment 13 will be reviewed by the Examiners before the Exam Day

Attachment 13 serves to assist the Examiners

- to have some basic understanding on the ten cases
- to note if the candidate has, if any, special consideration about the investigation ordering and management of the cases

The content of Attachment 13 must be consistent with the respective medical records

The actual marking will be based on the Examiners' judgement on the medical records presented

Four areas will be assessed:

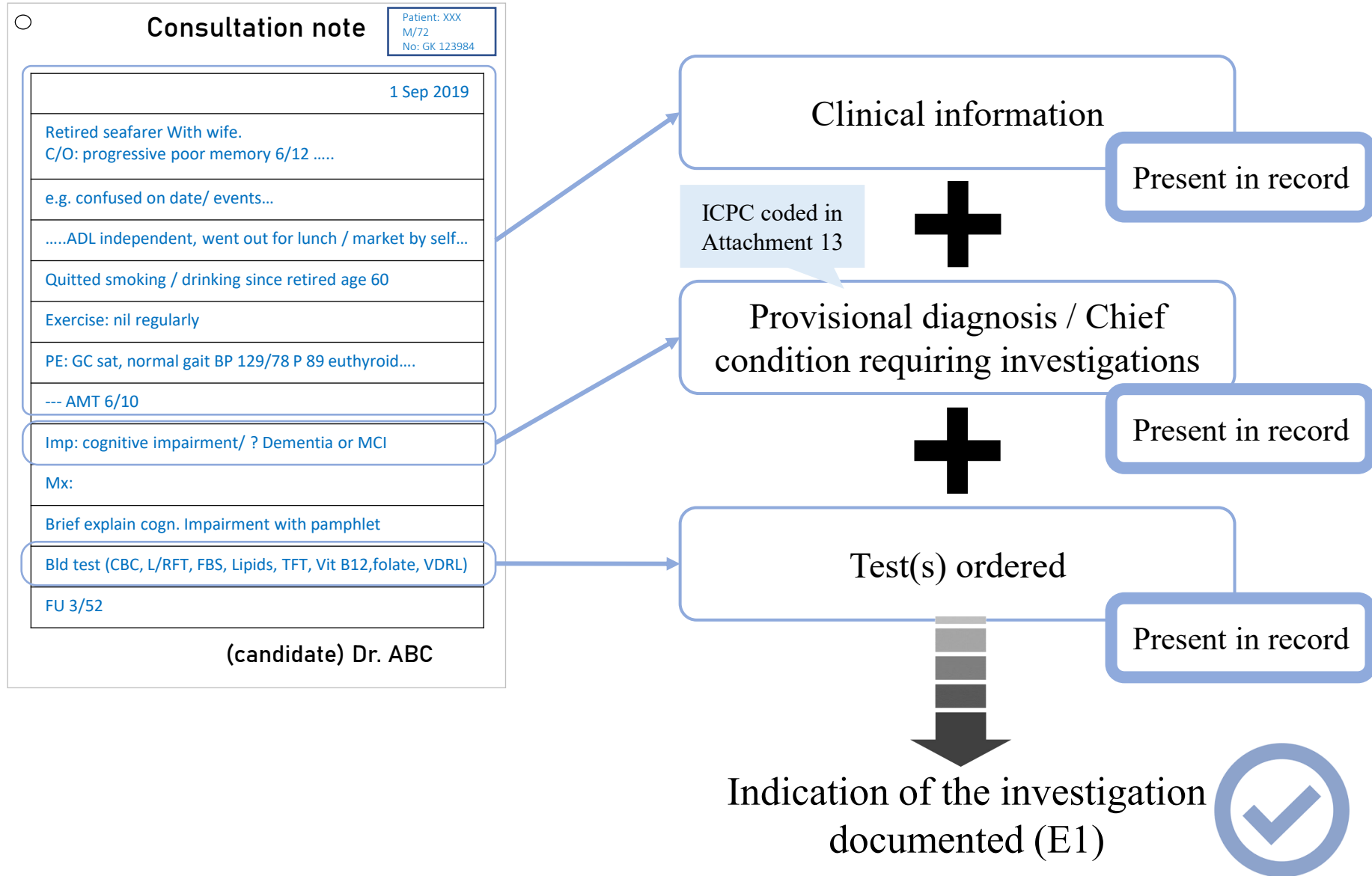
- E1 Investigation indication documentation
- E2 Justification
- E3 Results documentation
- E4 Follow up

Candidate Number: EE XXXXX

Part E (Investigations)

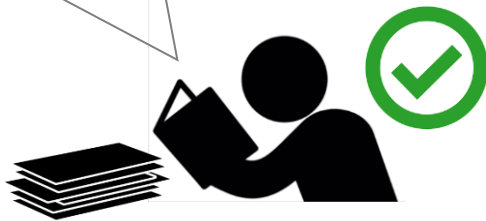
Case number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
E1. Investigation indication documentation										
E2. Justification										
E3. Results documentation										
E4. Follow up										

E1 (Investigation indication documentation)



E1 (Investigation indication documentation): marking

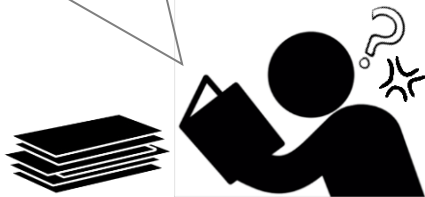
Indication(s) of the investigation documented in record



Part E (Investigations)										
Case number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
E1 Investigation indication documentation	✓									
E2 Justification	↓									
E3. Results documentation										
E4. Follow up										

→ Examiners proceed to assess the record

Indication(s) of the investigation **cannot be found** in the record



Part E (Investigations)										
Case number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
E1 Investigation indication documentation	✗									
E2 Justification	✗									
E3. Results documentation	✗									
E4. Follow up	✗									

Penalty!

- the whole case will not be assessed
- pro-rata mark deduction in Part E total score

E2 (Justification)

○ Consultation note Patient: XXX
M/72
No: GK 123984

1 Sep 2019
Retired seafarer With wife. C/O: progressive poor memory 6/12
e.g. confused on date/ events...
.....ADL independent, went out for lunch / market by self...
Quitted smoking / drinking since retired age 60
Exercise: nil regularly
PE: GC sat, normal gait BP 129/78 P 89 euthyroid....
--- AMT 6/10
Imp: cognitive impairment/ ? Dementia or MCI
Mx:
Brief explain cogn. Impairment with pamphlet
Bld test (CBC, L/RFT, FBS, Lipids, TFT, Vit B12,folate, VDRL)
FU 3/52

(candidate) Dr. ABC

Marking of E2 (Justification)
is the **Examiner's judgement** on the record's :

Clinical information

Provisional diagnosis / Chief
condition requiring investigations

Test(s) ordered

Marking Scale for E2 (Justification)

Examiner marks all the eligible medical records;



Then give a global mark



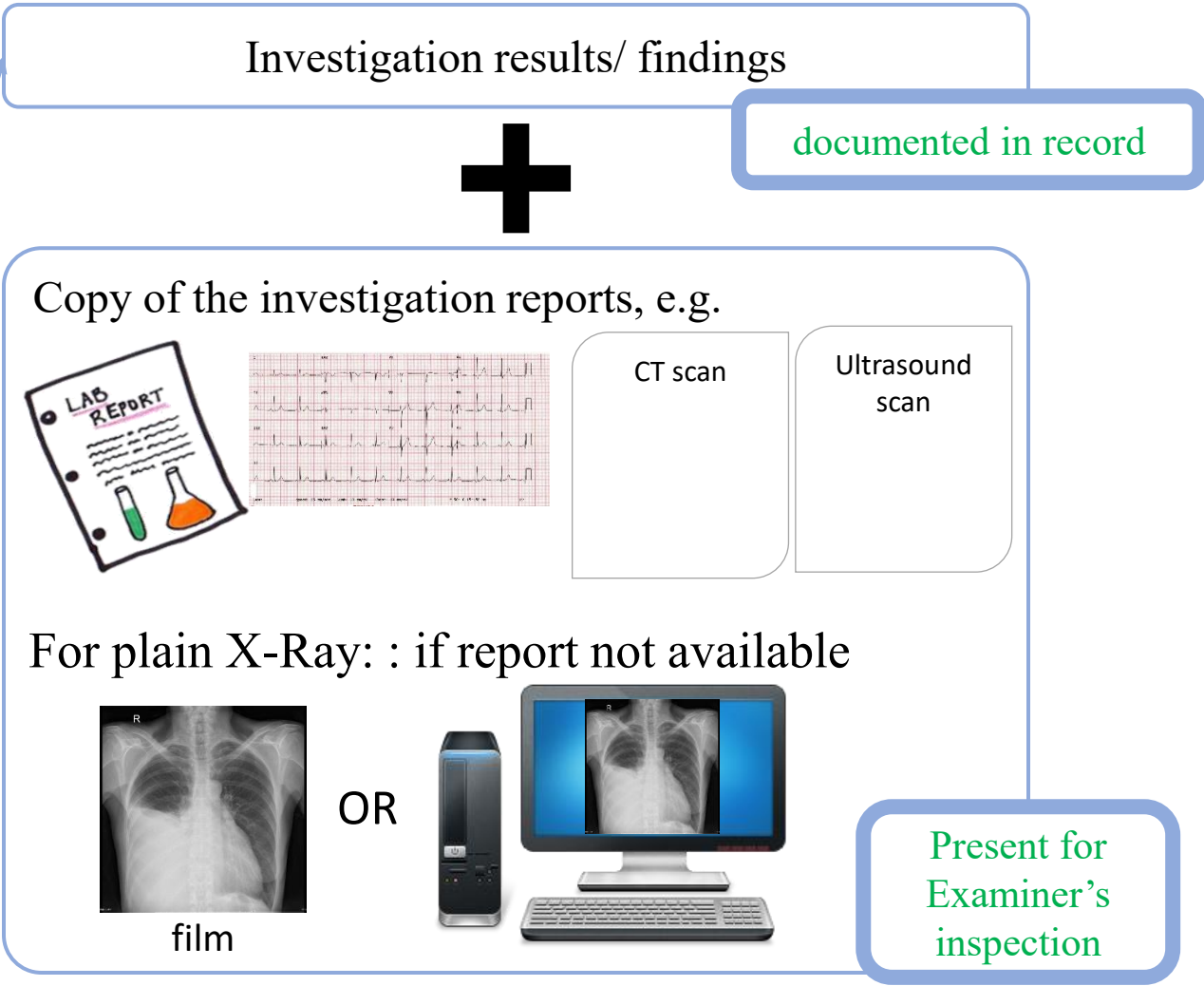
E2. Justification score	
circle one mark ONLY ↓	References:
9	
8.5	The investigations were targeted to the clinical findings, performed at appropriate time, the medical record was precise; provided effective patient care
8	
7.5	The investigations were targeted to the clinical findings, performed at appropriate time
7	
6.5	The investigations were in line with the clinical findings, likely solving the presenting problem
6	The investigations were not in line with the clinical findings, not likely solving the presenting problem
5.5	The investigations did not consider significant clinical findings appropriately
5	
4.5	The investigations OR the management of clinical condition(s) did not consider red flags appropriately
4	The documentation was disorganized, impairing the communication with other health care workers

E3 (Results documentation)

○ Consultation note Patient: XXX
M/72
No: GK 123984

21 Sep 2019
with wife and daughter today
Consult. 1/9/ 2019 refers;
Dementia bld work up (4 Sep 2019): CBC, L. RFT, TFT, Vit B12, folate: N; VDRL: no-reactive
Daughter concerned
Imp: cognitive impairment/ likely MCI
Mx:
Suggest SFI CT brain; relatives need time to think about
Encourage regular social activities / exercise. : e.g. visit nearby elderly community center
Refer:
Occ therapist (assessment and training)
Geri SOPC
FU 12/52

(candidate) Dr. ABC



Results documented (E3)

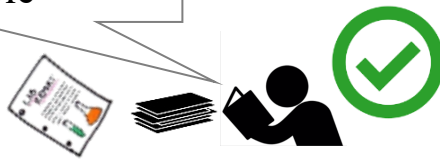


E3 (Results documentation): marking

- The investigation results documented in the medical record
AND
- The investigation/ laboratory report (copy) available

E3. Results documentation	✓													
E4. Follow up	↓													

→ Examiners proceed to assess the record, E4 (follow up)



- The investigation results **NOT** documented in the medical record
OR
- The investigation/ laboratory report (copy) **NOT** available

E3. Results documentation	✗													
E4. Follow up	✗													

Penalty!

- “Follow up” of the case will not be assessed
- pro-rata mark deduction in E4 (follow up) score

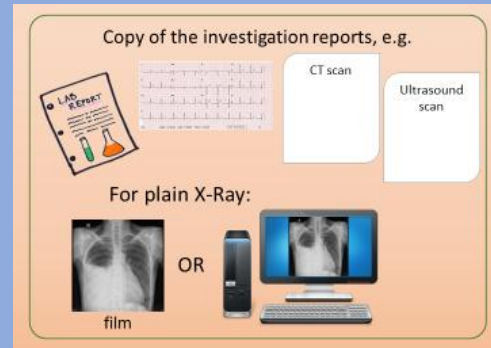


E4 (follow up)

Marking of E4 (follow up)
is the **Examiner's judgement** on the record's:

Investigation results/ findings:

In the
Medical *and*
record



Further clinical information elicited (if any)
Diagnosis
Management

Consultation note

Patient: XXX
M/72
No: GK 123984

21 Sep 2019

with wife and daughter today

Consult. 1/9/ 2019 refers;

Dementia bld work up (4 Sep 2019):
CBC, L. RFT, TFT, Vit B12, folate: N; VDRL: no-
reactive

Daughter concerned

Imp: cognitive impairment/ likely MCI

Mx:

Suggest SFI CT brain; relatives need time to
think about

Encourage regular social activities / exercise. :
e.g. visit nearby elderly community center

Refer:

Occ therapist (assessment and training)

Geri SOPC

FU 12/52

(candidate) Dr. ABC

Marking Scale for E4 (follow up)

Examiner marks all the eligible medical records;



Then give a global mark



E4. Follow up score	
circle one mark ONLY ↓	References:
9	
8.5	The follow up was targeted to the clinical findings and the investigation results, performed at appropriate time, the medical record was precise; provided effective patient care
8	
7.5	The follow up was targeted to the clinical findings and the investigation results, performed at appropriate time
7	
6.5	The follow up was in-line with the clinical findings and the investigation results
6	The follow up was not in line with the clinical findings OR the investigation results
5.5	The follow up did not consider significant investigation results appropriately
5	
4.5	The follow up of investigation results OR the management of clinical condition(s) did not consider red flags appropriately
4	The documentation was disorganized, impairing the communication with other health care workers

Part E (Investigation): total score calculation

Mark distribution:
E2 (Justification): 50%
E4 (Follow up): 50%
Passing mark Total score $\geq 65\%$

Candidate Number: EE XXXXX

Total score (Part E):

<div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">E2 score x 5</div> <input style="width: 100%; height: 60px;" type="text"/>	+	<div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">E4 score x 5</div> <input style="width: 100%; height: 60px;" type="text"/>	=	<div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Total Score (Part E)</div> <input style="width: 100%; height: 60px;" type="text"/>
		↑		↓
		If E3 pro-rata mark deduction applicable, please enter the adjusted mark		If E1 pro-rata mark deduction applicable
				<div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;">Pro-rata deducted score (Part E)</div> <input style="width: 100%; height: 60px;" type="text"/>

Some practice tips in preparing
Attachment 13 and Part E (Investigations)

E2 (Justification): some tips on practice

- Choose **test(s)** that are **recognized** and **accepted** in our **local primary care** setting
- Perform the test(s) at an **appropriate time / interval** (e.g. for disease monitoring)
- Test(s) are in line with the patient's problem(s), beware of
 - ***under-investigations***: omit test(s) that help to solve the problem
 - ***over-investigations***: order irrelevant / redundant test(s)
- Consider the **patient's expectations**, ***BUT not just because*** patient wishes or requests to have the test
- Consider **availability of the test** in your practice setting
- **Unnecessary to put down explicit explanation in the medical record to support your choice of investigations in most cases**

E2 (Justification): some tips on practice

Non-invasive liver fibrosis scores (e.g. FIB-4, APRI)

- a. Platelet count needed in calculating the scores
- b. These scores help guide the need for further testing e.g. fibroscan in primary care settings.
- c. Should be considered in the assessment of
 - i. fatty liver
 - ii. elevated liver enzymes with risk factor e.g. hepatitis B carrier, drinker
- d. Nonetheless in patients at risk of liver fibrosis, it is acceptable to proceed with fibroscan without the non-invasive score.

E2 (Justification): some tips on practice

Blood thyroid function tests

- a. In evaluating common thyroid conditions, either TSH or Free T4 + TSH is considered appropriate.
- b. TSH:
 - i. Limited value in the initial monitoring of hyperthyroidism treatment
 - ii. No role in the monitoring of thyroxine replacement in secondary (central, pituitary / hypothalamic) hypothyroidism --- although less common in primary care.
- c. Anti-TSH Receptor Antibodies:
 - i. Useful adjunct test to determine whether can stop oral anti-thyroid drug after an appropriate period of treatment. However, it is not mandatory
 - ii. Repeated testing during the course of hyperthyroidism treatment is unnecessary.
- d. CBC, LFT: repeated testing during the course of hyperthyroidism treatment is unnecessary.

E4 (follow up): some tips on practice

In the follow up visit:

- Distinguish **normal** vs **abnormal results**
- If necessary, **elicit further clinical information** e.g.
 - to help interpret certain incidental findings in the investigation
 - refine the diagnosis
 - to help planning the management
- Inform the patient on the **significance** and **implication** of the investigation results
- Management: according to the tests **results** and the **clinical context**; if needed:
 - **order further investigations** (*such investigations will not be assessed in the Exam*)
 - **Referrals**: but beware of the **potential long waiting time** for non-urgent / usual priority cases **in the public settings** → consider interim follow up(s)
- Also take care of **other significant health issues**, though apparently not related to the problem investigated in the case. Examples: smoking, obesity, comorbidities

Some observations, comments and
recommendations
in previous PA
(Part E)

Overall performance on E2 (Justification): area(s) need attention / improvement

- clinical information was sufficient to guide the management, investigation not necessary
- Insufficient clinical information
- Inappropriate working diagnosis
- The investigation not guiding the management
- Not choosing appropriate test(s)
- Test(s) not done at appropriate time
- Documentation: length not appropriate OR unclear
- Others:

Overall performance on E4 (Follow up): area(s) need attention / improvement

- Follow up not done at appropriate time
- Key findings documentation unclear
- Not offering appropriate management according to the investigation results
- Documentation: length not appropriate OR unclear
- Others:

Part E (Investigations)
General: pro-rata mark deduction

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
<p>Cases not ordered or followed up by the candidate</p> <p>Candidates claimed he is part time work in clinic only.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case 1, 3 , 4 , not followed up by candidate at all. • Case 6, not ordered by candidate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-compliance to examination guideline → pro-rata mark deduction in the total score of Part E
<p>Lab reports not available in the Medical Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECG not available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mark deduction pro-rata in E4
<p>Lab reports not available in the Medical Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laboratory reports on ANA and RF not present 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mark deduction pro-rata in E4

Part E (Investigations)

Documentation: length not appropriate OR unclear

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
<p data-bbox="108 358 1170 448">Discrepancy in the Attachment 13 and the medical record, causing confusion</p> <p data-bbox="108 508 1103 601">Problem: deranged LFT (D97) Investigation ordered: Ultrasound of hepatobiliary system</p> <p data-bbox="108 661 672 701">Attachment 13, case summary:</p> <ul data-bbox="117 715 1209 905" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="117 715 1209 905">○ (follow up): <i>“After discussion, patient was reluctant for invasive diagnostic test or other imaging such as Fibroscan as latest private blood test for liver function was normal”</i> <p data-bbox="108 919 459 959">Consultation notes:</p> <ul data-bbox="117 973 1219 1353" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="117 973 1219 1110">○ (1st visit): <i>“Patient “concerns the need for other investigation as patient had read online about liver biopsy”</i><li data-bbox="117 1125 1219 1353">○ (follow up): <i>“explained that liver biopsy is the gold standard diagnostic test however due to its invasive nature, it is only considered in complicated and severe cases, therefore it is not recommended in his case”</i>	<ul data-bbox="1271 486 1818 1233" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1271 486 1818 672">• <u>Attachment 13</u>: seemed the candidate suggested patient to have invasive diagnostic test<li data-bbox="1271 736 1818 922">• <u>Medical Record</u>: patient raised a concern if liver biopsy is needed ; and candidate not recommended<li data-bbox="1271 986 1818 1233">• Confusing information in the examination material → risk of misunderstanding by the Examiners in the marking process

Part E (Investigations)

Documentation: length not appropriate OR unclear

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
It is better to see the case as a whole (dizziness + elevated blood pressure) rather than separate the case to 2 issues at FU	
Clinical notes contain too many details of past record which do not have relevance to the current consultation. Can consider simplify , contain only those relevant information that may affect the current consultation	

Part E (Investigations), E2 (Justification)

clinical information was sufficient to guide the management, investigation not necessary

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
<p>Urine R/M, C/ST in female patients presented with uncomplicated lower urinary tract infection (cystitis)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PA Examiners come to a consensus that this type of cases do not have adequate justification (E2) Not to be submitted for PA
<p>Clinically diagnosed lipoma left upper back had already been made; ordering ultrasound of the mass not justifiable</p>	
<p>Not justifiable for ultrasound scan of shoulder as all the clinical findings already indicated tendinitis</p>	
<p>PV itch and discharge, hx not point to STD, 1st episode, not recurrent, single partner, PE Speculum → curd like discharge ; point to candidiasis. No strong indication for endocervical swab which is usually more useful for STD. If STD is suspected , endocervical swab X chlamydia should be performed as well.</p>	

Part E (Investigations), E2 (Justification)

clinical was information sufficient to guide the management, investigation not necessary

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
<p>Patient with history of cough x 1/52 with nasal secretion. Only travel to Eastern China. No other TOCC. Clinically look like URI. Why so early to order CXR when just the vague recommendation suggested by TCM.</p>	
<p>Uncomplicated , wanted pregnancy, already got private pregnancy test +ve. Why still need repeat PT and send to hospital lab??</p>	
<p>Nail clippings for fungal culture for Nail dystrophy / onychomycosis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• considered justifiable if oral antifungal is the only option available at the candidate's practice (e.g. in most GOPC settings).

Part E (Investigations), E2 (Justification) Insufficient clinical information

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
Rt wrist pain. Mechanism / severity of the sprain & contusion not clearly documented to assess if there was significant trauma justifying the XR. Contusion was documented as minor.	
F/54. 1 st episode of ↑ clinic BP. No home BP → immediate refer for ABPM. What is the evidence for early ABPM?	
TC > 7.5 ; be alert of familial hyperlipidemia, e.g. at PE look for tendon xanthoma, Rx target is different	
Justification of ABPM; BP in clinic 129/66 (8/22), 121 / 63 (11/22), 141/58 (3/23; rush to clinic), 149/82 (7/23; any recheck?). Imp: only 2 episodes of elevated BP in clinic	
Gout, can document any tophi in physical exam	
Increased BP once only could be explained by acute illness; not necessary to order routine test for HT at the first instance.	

Part E (Investigations), E2 (Justification)
Inappropriate working diagnosis

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
Referred from Surgical for A1c 6.7% X 1, ? DM. No random bld sugar nor FBS value. DM not confirmed. Not indicated for urine ACR.	
M/82. elevated PSA. Dx: CA prostate – without tissue diagnosis	

Part E (Investigations), E2 (Justification)
The investigation not guiding the management

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
(knee) If worry about ligament injury, should suggest MRI rather than XR	
In view of fair response to Augmentin, with pus expressed, should consider I&D (e.g. refer AED) instead of wound swab	

Part E (Investigations), E2 (Justification)
 Not choosing appropriate test(s)

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
Baseline ECG should be sought for all HT patients if not done before	
M/65. Recurrent Renal stone. Had ESWL Rt renal stone in 2015. Ix: MSU, KUB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should check blood calcium, urate (underlying cause?) • Can consider US kidneys or SFI CT Urogram
RUQ abd pain X 1/52. Bld check should include CBC for WBC , to assess any infection	
For fatty liver, it is better to order USG, rather than LFT only	
Patient with HT for complication screening, not monitor Urine PC ratio (PCR)? In which another doctor order and monitor at 6/2022. HK HT Reference Framework suggest urine PCR yearly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some GOPC's practice was urine dipstick albumin to screen; if +ve → send urine PC ratio
Urine PC ratio not checked (HT case) , ? Department protocol	

Part E (Investigations), E2 (Justification)
 Not choosing appropriate test(s)

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
<p>Hep B carrier, we need to consider whether antiviral Tx is needed. So we need to check HBV DNA as well and order CBC/AST to calculate APRI score (Aspartate aminotransferase to platelet ratio index), Fibrosan and see any chance of cirrhosis. Although GOPC might not have HBV DNA/ Fibrosan, we need to discuss with patient (similar to Ultrasound ordered by the candidate)</p>	
<p>M/68. SOB & chest discomfort → refer to have CXR and SFI CT coronary angiogram. CXR revealed massive Rt pleural effusion ← immediately referred to AED by Chest Clinic (where the patient had the XR taken) Diagnosis: malignant mesothelioma Only telephone consultation with the patient Why advocate patient to SFI CT Coro so early at GOPC setting and not wait for CXR first?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SFI CT Coro may still be advocated if the clinical information point to reasonable probability of IHD , can calculate the risk score • At the telephone FU, can ask the patient to postpone the SFI CT and consult his attending physician first

Part E (Investigations), E2 (Justification)
 Not choosing appropriate test(s)

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
<p>UnderIx → in view of patient's age, multiple vertebral collapses, need to check CBP, ESR, Ca, PO4, ALP (not done before) to r/o malignancy</p>	
<p>Urticaria, F/27 to r/o autoimmune disease / vasculitis , only check CBP, ESR. Should consider ANA and CRP</p>	
<p>DEXA ordered on the 1st encounter, based on patient's concern of osteoporosis causing the back pain. XR LS spine ordered on the 2nd visit.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • XR LS spine should be considered in the 1st visit

Part E (Investigations), E2 (Justification)
Test(s) not done at appropriate time

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
Should not repeated blood x lipid at 21/6/2016 as just done by medical 6/2016 in which the result is normal. The duration of Ix is not appropriate	
Suspect gouty attack one week ago. Blood urate check on the next day; results may not be accurate. Should postpone test at least 2 weeks after the flare up	

Part E (Investigations), E4 (Follow up)
 Follow up not done at appropriate time

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
<p>All along stable thyroid case. Hx and Physical examination didn't indicate any hypo/hyperthyroid symptoms. No strong reason to follow up the case in 2 weeks' time to see the result.</p>	
<p>Post-RAI on thyroxine. Increased thyroxine for ↑ TSH and normal T4 level. Bld check at 3 wk and FU 4/52 → not much change for lab result finding for TSH.</p>	
<p>X-ray R/o rib fracture patient (ordered) on 21/9/2021 FU on 20/10/2021. X ray report available on 26/10/2021. Did candidate see wet film earlier?</p>	

Part E (Investigations), E4 (Follow up)
Key findings documentation unclear

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
ABPM success rate 64% only (< 70%), not valid	
24 hr ABPM , % of BP > target should be documented too	

Part E (Investigations), E4 (Follow up)

Not offering appropriate management according to the investigation results

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
<p>Patient with HT, IFG, H-lipid & Gout since 2002. Ordered blood test for patient.</p> <p>Results (5/17): Urate came back 0.61 mmol/L vs Hx 7/16 Urate 569 mmol/L & 8/15 Urate 550 mmol/L</p> <p>Increasing trend of urate level with on & off gouty attack.</p> <p>Still emphasis on low purine diet only but no dietitian referral.</p> <p>Should put on (medication) to lower the uric level & prevent recurrent gouty attack</p>	
<p>CXR (for cough/ resp symptoms) incidentally finding of ?</p> <p>Calcified gallstone, patient been FU Surgical before; but no further documentation of FU action to patient & when to seek help if needed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If the gallstone hx were clarified that has been under attention, document '<i>known gallstone, FU Surgical</i>' probably sufficient.
<p>ABPM result : mild HT. At follow up: clinic BP 137 / 88. started Norvasc 2.5 mg QD. What is the evidence of using anti-HT? most guideline recommend trial of life style modification 6 months first rather than put on Rx after 1 months of BP monitoring</p>	

Part E (Investigations), E4 (Follow up)

Not offering appropriate management according to the investigation results

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
<p style="color: red;">Thyrotoxicosis since Dec 2021. Poor Rx compliance FT4: 73 (Apr 2022) , 40.8 (May 2022) , 54 (July 2022) Pulse 108 / min Dx: ‘mild rebound’ Candidate had seen the patient 2 episodes and did not adjust the CMZ dosage; now increased from 10 mg QD to 15 mg QD</p>	
<p style="color: red;">Toenail clippings fungal culture +ve, patient declined SFI topical treatment or oral antifungal Rx, referred to Skin Clinic which the waiting time is long</p>	<p>can consider</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Podiatry referral, or • trial of Canestan cream
<p style="color: red;">Patient PT +ve / pregnancy case. Folate not prescribed.</p> <p><i>Case with Urine pregnancy strip test (POCT) as the only Ix is not eligible for PA from 2023 Exit Exam</i></p>	<p>In GOPCs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Folate of the appropriate dose may not be available in the clinics • Can suggest the patient to self purchase until seen by antenatal clinic

Part E (Investigations), E4 (Follow up)

Not offering appropriate management according to the investigation results

Issue noted:	Comments / recommendations
Skin swab result Augmentin resistant, but given Augmentin only	
Gout, consider colchicine as prophylaxis Rx	
Nail clippings +ve for fungal culture; need blood liver function test before starting oral antifungal?	Not mandatory (but monitoring after starting the therapy suggested)

Enquiry

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