

# History of Presenting Complaint

## Open-ended questions

What do you think is wrong with you?

What can I do for you?

What is the problem, how can I help?

ICE is taught as a consultation model

Ideas, concerns & expectations

## Salient Points

From which organs do the symptoms arise ?

What is likely cause?

Predisposing or risk factors ?

Any complications?

Epstein et al (2003)

# Assessing Pain & Ethnicity

## Assessing pain

Type

Site

Spread

Timeframe/Consistency

Relieving or aggravating factors

Associated symptoms

## Ethnic origin

Risk of Tuberculosis

Rheumatic fever

Sickle Cell trait & disease

Thalasseamia

Genetic

# Medical History & Medication

## Past & Current Medical History

Patients own knowledge of own health conditions maybe poor

Ask about hospital admissions/operations

Assessing the drug history first can give the clues to the patients current health status

Functional ability

Level of independence/Mobility

## Medication History

Always consider ADRs/iatrogenic disease in your differential diagnosis

Drug side-effects e.g. statins, NSAIDs

Drug interactions e.g. QT prolongation

Allergies

Illicit drugs

Herbal remedies

# Social History & Family History

## Social History

Past & present occupations

Education

Marital status

Hobbies

Smoking & Alcohol

Drug addiction

Social Services

## Family History

Familial or acquired

Hyperlipidaemia (IHD)

Diabetes Mellitus

Hypertension

Depression

Osteoporosis

Cancer – bowel/ovarian/breast

# Occupational Lung Disease

## Quarrying & Foundry work

Silica dust causing Silicosis

## Mining – less relevant now

Coal dust causing Pneumoconiosis

## Asbestos (Mining, heating, building, demolition)

Asbestos fibres

## Farming & Paint Spraying

Actinomyces causing Alveolitis  
Isocyanates causing asthma

# Foreign Travel

## Travel related risks

Malaria

Bilharzia

Hepatitis (A,B,E)

Yellow fever, rabies, polio – all viruses

Bacterial infections such as cholera & salmonella

Jet-lag

A & L Healthcare Training



# Group-work

## Differential diagnosis



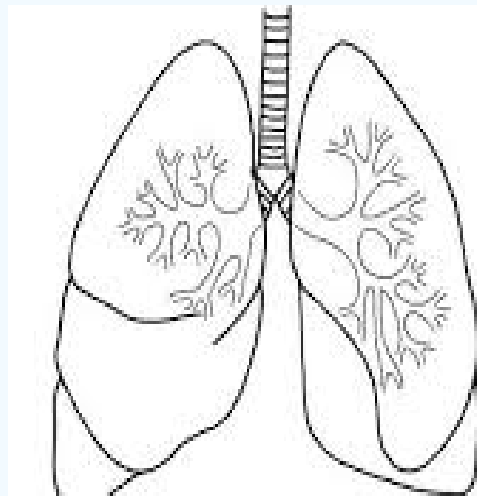
Confusion



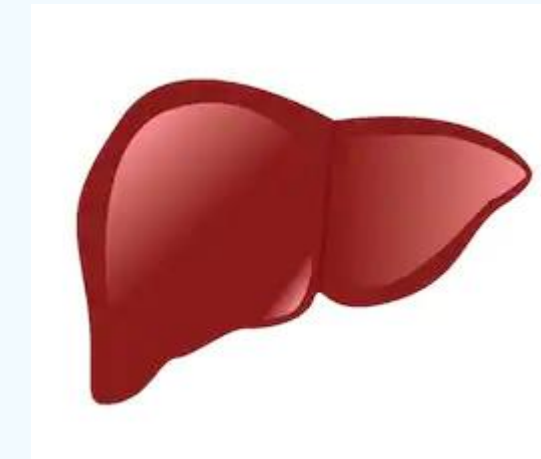
Chest pain



Weight loss



Breathlessness



Jaundice