

Pneumonia – High Risk Case (score 4 – 5)

“Near Live” Usability Testing

History (Standardized patient):

Provider: “Hi, what brings you in today?”

Patient is intermittently coughing.

Patient: “I’ve been feeling pretty crummy for the last 3 days. It’s been sort of unusual. I’ve never had anything like this before. And nobody I know has anything at all like this.

About 3 days ago I woke up with a cough out of nowhere. And I’ve been pretty much coughing since then. I really hope it’s nothing too serious.

I’ve been coughing up a lot of phlegm—just sort of yellowish, no blood or anything. It’s been harder to breath too. And I’ve been really tired.

I started feeling feverish yesterday. Then I got the chills last night. I just had to call in sick and I pretty much slept the entire day yesterday.

But the thing that’s really worrying me the most... I get this pain when I take a deep breath, like— *(breathes deep to try to trigger the pain)*—yep! Right there! *(Puts hand to the site of pain.)* It only happens on the left side in the back. But it’s like—sharp! This sharp sort of pinching. So I’ve been trying not to breathe deeply for anything—and when I breathe more softly it’s better—it’s fine.

But it’s kind of worrying me. It’s only in that spot but it’s been happening for 3 days now and I’m getting kind of concerned about it. What do you think this could be?

Physical Exam (Provided in written form):

T 103, HR 110, ENT: pharyngeal erythema, Neck: no LAD, Lungs: Crackles - right lower lung field