

2020-02 Trial Exam

SAQ3

A 40 year old female presents to your ED complaining of dyspnoea. She has no significant past history.

On examination she is dyspnoeic but has completely normal and clear lung fields on examination.

- ◆ Complete the table below with your differential diagnoses for her dyspnoea.
- ◆ 6 marks so 6 different differentials

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Differentials

- ◆ Intrinsic pulmonary
 - ◆ PE, Pulmonary hypertension
- ◆ Cardiac
 - ◆ STEMI/ACS, arrhythmia
- ◆ Pericardiac
 - ◆ pericardial tamponade/effusion, pericarditis

Differentials

- ◆ Disorders of Oxygen carriage
 - ◆ Anaemia, Haemoglobinopathy, Methaemoglobinaemia, CO poisoning, CN poisoning
- ◆ Acidosis
 - ◆ DKA, Alcoholic ketoacidosis etc
 - ◆ Salicylate toxicity- Special case
- ◆ Other
 - ◆ Pregnancy, Anxiety/panic attack/psychogenic

- ◆ For each differential give one (1) ED investigation (with justification) you would use to help determine the cause of her dyspnoea.

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Cut Mark

◆ 8/12

Tips

- ◆ Carefully read the stem. Every piece of information is important.
- ◆ Don't give answers incompatible with the stem
- ◆ Categorise your answers to avoid too similar responses or missing important responses. Show prioritisation.

Tips

- ◆ Consultant level answer.
- ◆ Be specific, appropriate to the question's patient/situation.
- ◆ Differential, investigation and justification should show a specialist's level of knowledge.
- ◆ Prioritise every answer on every question

Tips

- ◆ Avoid non-standard acronyms.
- ◆ Be explicit
- ◆ Be accurate, exact and use the spell checker