

Coral Grant

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Patient Narrative

These details are for your background knowledge of the person you are portraying. Please bring out these details as you think it appropriate. There is no need for all of these details to come out during the consultation. Important information that you need to be very familiar with is in **bold type**.

Patient narrative

You have an outgoing and warm personality

No illnesses of note. You are on ginet 84 for oral contraception and also for control of facial acne.

You were brought up in Dunedin and have always lived there. You enjoyed school but felt a bit constrained by it. You could probably have gone to university and done well but it seemed like just more school and you were keen to get out into the workforce

You have been married for 6 months to a man you have known for 4 years. You have a good relationship with your husband. He is a quiet, sincere man who manages a small bookshop. You met through a mutual friend at a barbeque.

Since you have been married your social life has been much reduced. There does not seem to be a lot of money to spare as you are saving for a deposit on your house.

You are happy and content but miss the "fizz" of single life.

You are a 23 year old woman who works as an administrative assistant in a chocolate factory. You left school at the age of 17 having finished 7th form and initially started work with your current organisation as a clerical assistant and now have worked up to a more responsible job in administration. You are responsible for tracking the use of packaging of the chocolate products although you do not make any major decisions.

Looking forward to getting your own house and then starting a family.

During an office party two weeks ago, you had an episode of unprotected sex with a work colleague.

You feel very guilty about this, but the encounter was with someone who you have always had feelings for and in the heat of the moment, with a bit of alcohol on board, let yourself go.

Since returning to work neither you nor your work colleague have mentioned the episode and any initial embarrassment seems to have settled.

It was a one of episode and you cannot understand what came over you. You know that it was a stupid thing to do and even more stupid not to use a condom.

Clinical Event Narrative

Reason for Presentation

You have no symptoms but wanted to close off the episode at the office party so last week you came to see the practice nurse for a smear even though it was not yet due.

At the time you also asked for an STI test but did not mention why you wanted this.

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Today you have come for the results

Clinical History - what the patient says and how they respond to questions

Physically, you feel fine.

Specifically you have:

- No pain or burning when you pass water
- No change in vaginal discharge

You have just come for the results of the test.

You do not reveal the episode at the party unless you feel very comfortable with the clinician.

The clinician may ask you questions related to your sexual history:

Your periods started at the age of 12 years. You have never had any trouble with them. They caused you some discomfort but only need to take a few panadol for two days of a month. The periods last for 5 days every month.

Since you started taking the pill at the age of 17 years the periods have been even lighter.

You have had five sexual partners since you became sexually active six years ago.

You met your husband, Bob, four years ago. You were just friends for about 6 months. Then went out on and off for another six months. For a while you split up and has another boyfriend but then you got back together again.

You have had an exclusive sexual relationship with Bob for the last two and a half years. Until the office party.

You are sure Bob has not had sex with anyone else since you first met him four years ago. He had had girlfriends before then but you have not really asked.

Clinical Examination

The clinician may want to examine your abdomen and take your temperature. The results will be normal.

If the clinician wishes to repeat the vaginal examination. Say that you do not want to go through that again. Do not use the cue phrase just refuse to have one.

Investigations

The clinician is likely to tell you that you have Chlamydia (a sexually transmitted infection).

This will be an upsetting shock to you and you will want to know what happens next.

You see this message as spelling the end of your marriage. You may cry

Reaction to Diagnosis

You will accept the diagnosis and treatment for Chlamydia almost automatically. You were resigned to hearing this news.

Reaction to Management Suggestions

When the clinician brings up the prospect of telling your husband of your recent sexual contact you will be very hesitant.

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ou will begrudgingly accept the need to tell your work colleague that he needs to be tested and treated but you are adamantly opposed to telling your husband. You feel that this would end your marriage as you do not expect your husband to cope with your being unfaithful so soon after getting married.

You know he will be terribly upset. You don't want to tell your husband, but you know you should. You have no idea how he will react. You do not expect him to get violent.

You do not think there is any possibility that you husband has been unfaithful.

You can be convinced to tell your husband, but only if you have developed good rapport with the clinician and you are given some good reasons such as:

- *Offering to have your husband come into the clinic so that the clinician can act as support while your husband hears the news.
- *Pointing out that if your husband does contract Chlamydia then he is likely to be told by a doctor that it is commonly caught sexually and therefore make the connection himself that you may have been unfaithful.
- *Stressing the need for your husband to have the proper treatment
- *Emphasising that if your husband does not get treatment you will almost certainly get re-infected and this may well effect your fertility or give you serious health problems.
- *Knowing that it is possible that you and your husband might have been both infected asymptotically since before you met.

You will definitely not agree if you feel as though you are being judged.

Please agree to any follow up the clinician suggests