

How to Present a Patient

Mr. (s) _____ (initials) _____ is a _____ (age) _____ year old
_____(race) _____ (sex) _____ who enters the hospital (or clinic) with a chief complaint
(CC) of _____

HPI: The patient's problem began

Chronological history

Include medications, therapies, surgery relating to the problem

Concurrent unrelated active problems

Brief history of problems (one at a time)

Include medications, other therapies, surgery relating to the problem(s)

PMH: Significant past medical and surgical history

SH/FH: If contributory

Medication History:

Current medications (Rx, otc, health foods, herbals) including reasons for use, monitoring parameters, drug interactions, ADRs, if applicable)

Allergies

Significant Physical Findings: Include presenting vital signs, if pertinent

Significant Laboratory Data:

What is abnormal?

All necessary labs?

Impression and Plan for Work-up:

Problem list

For hospitalized patients, may need to present hospital course:

Events (in chronological order)

New problems (in chronological order)

Operations/Diagnostic Procedures: findings/complications

Status of active problems (at time of presentation)

In summary, we have a _____ year old _____ with a chief complaint of _____.

The patient has been managed by _____.

After summarizing the above information, the student should then be prepared to discuss:

Disease state(s): considering incidence, etiology, pathophysiology, signs & symptoms, laboratory findings, prognosis and complications. Compare these items to your particular patient case.

Drug therapy: discuss therapeutic approaches to the disease; state the objective of drug therapy and issues in drug selection (e.g. mechanism, route of administration, duration of therapy, side effects/ADRs, therapeutic endpoints)

Critique the drug therapy and provide conclusions regarding the case.