



# Medical Patient Assessment

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## Scene size-up

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- BSI
- Scene safety
- Nature of **illness**
- Number of patients
- Need for additional resources → **ALS**
- **Consider** c-spine precautions



## Primary assessment

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- General impression
- Level of consciousness (AVPU)
- Chief complaint / Apparent life threats
- ABCs
- **Identify priority patients**
- Transport decision
  - Rapid vs. delayed



## Focused history & PE

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- Perform an “illness dependent” **H**istory of **P**resent **I**llness
- Essentially “OPQRST” with adjustments
- Illnesses follow...



## Respiratory

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- Onset
- Provokes / palliates
- Quality
- Radiation
- Severity
- Time
- Interventions



## Cardiac

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- Onset
- Provokes / palliates
- Quality
- Radiation
- Severity
- Time
- Interventions



## Altered Mental Status

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- Description of episode
- Onset
- Duration
- Symptoms
- **Trauma?**
- Interventions
- Seizures
- Fever? – especially in elderly



## Allergic reaction

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- Allergic history?
- Exposed to?
- How?
  - Ingested, injection...
- Effects
- Progression
- Interventions



## Poisoning / overdose

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- Substance
- When?
- How much?
- Over how long?
- **Weight**
- interventions



## Environmental

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- Source
- Environment
- Duration
- Loss of consciousness?
- Local or systemic



## Obstetric

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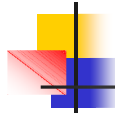
- Pregnant?
- How long?
- Pain/contractions
- Bleeding/discharge
- Water broken?
- Need to push?
- LMP



## Behavioral

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- How do you feel?
- **Suicidal?**
- **Threat to self or others?**
- **Medical problem?**
- Interventions



## Assessment continued...

- **SAMPLE**
  - In "E" consider traumatic causes
- Focused physical exam
  - Consistent with illness
- Vital signs
- Treatment
- Transport
- **Consider Rapid Scan/Secondary Assessment**
  - **Especially for patients with "minimal" Level of consciousness**
- Reassessment (Primary, vitals, focused)