

OETSTUDY MATERIAL

SPEAKING

ROLE-PLAYER CARD

Setting: Home Visit

Patient: You are 65 years old and were discharged from hospital four weeks ago after undergoing a

coronary artery bypass graft (CABG). A community nurse visits to check on your progress. Tell

him/her about the chest pain and the shortness of breath you've been experiencing.

Task:

When asked, say that you are feeling better and recovering well from the surgery. Say that
you have been feeling some chest pain and shortness of breath lately, especially when you
walk or climb stairs. You think it's normal after the surgery, but it worries you sometimes.

- Say that you have chest pain once or twice a day; it is mild, about a three out of ten; and it
 feels like a tightness or pressure in your chest. Say that you don't have any other symptoms.
- When asked, says that you have been doing some light exercises every day, such as walking
 around the block or doing some stretches; you have been following a low-fat, low-salt and
 high-fiber diet as recommended by your doctor; and that you quit smoking a few months
 before your surgery.
- Say you'll do what the nurse has suggested but you wonder if you need to see a cardiologist.
- Say you'll try the nurse's suggestions and see a cardiologist if there's no improvement.

CANDIDATE CARD

Setting: Home Visit

Nurse: You visit a 65-year-old patient to check on his/her progress following hospital discharge four weeks ago after undergoing a coronary artery bypass graft (CABG). During your visit, the patient

reports some symptoms suggestive of angina (chest pain, shortness of breath).

Task:

 Confirm the reason for the visit (check-up following CABG). Find out how the patient is feeling.

- Find out more about the patient's symptoms (frequency, severity of chest pain, if worse with exertion, any other symptoms nausea/sweating/arm pain, etc.).
- Explore possible reasons for the patient's chest pain and shortness of breath (activity level, stress, diet, smoking, etc.).
- Explain that symptoms may suggest angina (reduced blood flow to the heart muscle).
 Reassure the patient (e.g., condition can be managed with medication, lifestyle changes, etc.).
 Recommend self-help treatment (e.g., rest when feeling chest pain, use nitroglycerin spray as prescribed, avoid strenuous activities, etc.).
- Stress the need to see a cardiologist only if symptoms persist or worsen (e.g., cardiologist to prescribe appropriate treatment, rule out other conditions, monitor heart function, etc.). Stress the importance of self-help treatments.

