

Scenario Example – AVPU (2 pages)

It's 04:00 am and a patient has been brought into your ER by NEMS on a stretcher. They had a headache that was very bad. They have **no** history of trauma.

ASSESSMENT	FURTHER INFORMATION	KEY POINTS	YES	NO
A	Airway: Snoring (if airway manoeuvre then snoring stops until manoeuvre stopped. Will restart unless airway adjunct inserted or manoeuvre held)	A Correctly Assessed		
		Head tilt chin lift		
		Mentions airway adjunct for airway support		
		Calls for help		
B	Respiratory rate: 22 Oxygen saturations: 96% Listening to chest: Chest Clear	B Correctly Assessed		
		No need for oxygen communicated		
C	BP: 120/65 HR: 89, pulse strong Listening to chest: Normal Heart Sounds	C Correctly Assessed		
		Aware C normal, quickly moves to D		
D	AVPU: Pain (decreases to Unresponsive in 3 minutes) Glucose: 5 Pupils: right pupil large and unresponsive	AVPU correctly assessed		
		Check glucose + recognises normal and no action required		
		Pupils assessed		
		Body Strength assessed both sides		
		Diagnosis of Acutely Altered Mental State Identified - possible acute stroke		
		Aware P + U = airway at risk and needs resus, inform senior for emergency review		
E	E findings:	E Assessed Adequately		

	No abnormal E findings			
SBAR		SBAR communicated clearly		
		S		
		B		
		A		
		R		

Diagnosis: Acute Altered Mental State – possible stroke

Equipment (if available)

- Airway Adjunct
- Glucose check

Learning Objectives

- Confident use of the ABCDE with focus on AVPU
- Appropriately ask for help and communicate concerns
- Clinical assessment and recognition of Acute Altered Mental State
- Demonstrate appropriate initial management of Airway concerns with decreased consciousness

Debrief

Responses to the debrief questions are meant to reflect learning; they require more than yes or no answers. Reflect afterwards on this discussion for your logbook.

1. What did you think was happening?
2. What did you do and why?
3. Do you think your interventions were helpful? Describe how. If not, explain why.
4. Did the team members communicate effectively with each other? Provide examples.
5. Did the team members communicate effectively with the patient? Provide examples.
6. How efficient was the teamwork? Provide examples.
7. What aspects of this scenario exercise can you apply to your clinical practice? How might you apply those aspects?