



National Prescribing Service Limited



Case study 58: Antibiotics and respiratory tract illness – thinking of patient-centred care

(for GPs, pharmacists, nurses and other health professionals)

NPS case studies are designed to help you refine your clinical decision-making skills. After you complete and submit the case study, you will receive expert commentaries along with aggregated responses that provide a snapshot of your colleagues' responses.

Scenario

Brenda is a 25-year-old marketing executive. She presents to you today worried about her cough and hoarse voice as she has to give a presentation to her company board next week. She developed symptoms of cough with mucopurulent sputum, rhinitis, mild fever and malaise five days ago. She used 'cough lollies' for her symptoms and felt 'a bit better'. Currently she complains of cough without paroxysm and a hoarse voice. She denies any sputum production or wheeze, or contact with anyone suffering from pertussis.

Brenda is single and lives with her parents. She is a non-smoker and drinks alcohol only at social functions. She underwent a tonsillectomy at age 13. She denies any history of asthma. She has no history of renal or hepatic disease and no known drug allergies. Her family history is unremarkable. Currently, she is not taking any medication.

On examination, she looks anxious. Her blood pressure is 126/84 mmHg, pulse 90 beats/min, respiratory rate 15/min and temperature 37.8 °C. There is no cervical lymphadenopathy or cyanosis. Throat examination reveals no exudates. Respiratory examination reveals no chest wall tenderness and auscultation reveals normal breath sounds. There were no other significant findings.

How to participate

All participants: Complete ALL questions, fill in appropriate details and sign the consent agreement in the 'Your details' box (see over).

GPs: To be included in the **Quality Prescribing Initiative** of the **Practice Incentives Program** (PIP), quote your **provider and prescriber numbers** in the spaces provided.

Pharmacists: This activity is recognised for continuing professional development by the Pharmaceutical Society of Australia (PSA), the Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA), the Australian Association of Consultant Pharmacy (AACCP) and the Pharmacy Board of South Australia. PSA members, quote your membership number in the space provided. Other pharmacists, please self-record this activity. For details on recording participation see <http://casestudy.nps.org.au>

Send to NPS by:
31 July 2009

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Complete and submit your case study
online at: <http://casestudy.nps.org.au>

