

Sample Practice Scenario:

Status Asthmaticus

Goals:

- 1) Assess airway and breathing
- 2) Recognize status asthmaticus
- 3) Treat status asthmaticus
- 4) Recognize progressive respiratory distress

Scenario:

Parents present to the emergency department at the recommendation of the on call provider with their 3 year old son, Simon. They report that he was well until two days ago when he developed a runny nose, a cough, and a fever. They are bringing him in now because he says it hurts to breathe.

PMH: Born at 33 weeks via NSVD, hospitalized at 6 months for “wheezing” per dad, has had several courses of oral steroids from his pediatrician in the last year.. Has eczema.

FH: no history of asthma/atopy, older siblings are healthy

Allergies/Imm: NKDA, up to date on vaccines

Meds: albuterol PRN

VS: Temp: 37.5C HR:160 RR: 40 SpO2 90% on room air weight: 16kg

Critical Performance Steps Checklist: (with instructor answers in pink)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Perform initial assessment | Patient is sitting in father's lap, alert, crying,
Patent airway, no lip or tongue swelling
Intercostal, substernal, and supraclavicular retractions
Prolonged expiratory phase
Cap refill is less than 2 seconds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assess breath sounds | Diminished breath sounds, faint wheeze |

