

Homework Case Scenario 1:

43yo Male nurse presents for take check on day 7 following smallpox vaccination. He appears well and his only complaint on ROS is a mild headache and fatigue. Removal of his vaccination site bandage reveals an ulcerative lesion measuring approximately 2.5 cm on a non-erythematous base with scant non-bloody discharge. Due to your concern regarding the ulcerative presentation and size of the central vaccination lesion, you arrange for a site re-check in 2-3 days.

The patient fails to keep his scheduled follow-up appointment because he was not concerned and was feeling well. Instead, he left town to visit friends. Feeling guilty about missing his appointment, he presents to the clinic on day 14 following smallpox vaccination. His ROS is unremarkable and he appears well.

On examination, the central ulcerative lesion now measures 5 cm. The edge of the lesion has necrotic changes, while the uninvolved skin shows no signs of inflammation. There are no exudates present. There is no evidence of maceration and the patient admits that he has not been covering the lesion because he ran out of bandaging supplies while on vacation

Vax Hx: Flu '01, Td '93, routine childhood immunizations including smallpox vaccine but no scar is detected.

PMHx: Cellulitis following needle stick in 1998 which required hospitalization for IV antibiotics, PPD 0x0mm '02

Meds: Herbals, occasional aspirin

SH: Single, surgical nurse supervisor, heavy smoker

- 1. How do you chart his “take”?**
- 2. Is this an adverse reaction?**
- 3. If so; what is your vaccinal AE differential diagnosis?**
- 4. What is your level of concern for vaccinal adverse reaction on Day 7 and Day 14 post-vaccination?**

- 5. What in features of the history or exam help you draw this conclusion?**

- 6. How likely do you think that non-vaccinial etiologies might be contributing to the presenting symptoms?**

- 7. If this patient did not give a history of smallpox vaccination, what would be your non-vaccinial differential diagnosis?**

- 8. What are your next steps for clinical evaluation?**

- 9. Is this a case that you would like to have further consultation?**

- 10. Should a VAERS form be completed? If so, who should fill it out?**

- 11. If so, who do you call? And what is your request?**

- 12. What is the prognosis for this condition?**

- 13. What are the considerations for infection control measures? Should this patient continue in his clinical duties?**