**Patient:**

40 year-old obese woman

Married, mother of four children

Jehovah’s Witness

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| **Presenting Situation** Periodic right upper quadrant abdominal pain |
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***Backstory:***

Obese- loves to eat/ stressed, highly emotional eater.

High Cholesterol

Respecting religious beliefs (no blood transfusions for Jehovah’s Witness)

**Case Information: All Information in Red- needs to come out by actor: The rest depends upon the students’ abilities to ask the right questions. Actors can’t volunteer information. We are testing to see if students can ask the right questions.**

First noted some mild right upper abdominal pain after eating meals about 2 weeks ago. Pain described as “cramping” or “gripping”, and goes away after about 10-20 minutes. These episodes have continued, especially after eating fatty foods.

Pain is associated with mild nausea, but no vomiting. No fever. No diarrhea or other change in bowel movements.

No problems with urination. No chest pain or shortness of breath.

Using birth control pills, but no other medications.

Menstrual periods have been regular.

Has had high cholesterol for the past 5 years, but not taking any medications for this. “I try to watch my diet, but it is hard to do…”

Married, with four children. All are healthy.

Mother and older sister both had “gallbladder problems”. No other siblings.

Works as a manicurist at a nail salon.

Does not drink alcohol, smoke or use illegal drugs.

“Do you think I might need surgery for this? I’m a Jehovah’s Witness, and we can’t receive blood transfusions…”

**Physical Exam:**

Physical examination:

Vital signs normal.

BMI elevated (obese).

Heart and lungs normal.

Abdomen – obese with mild right upper quadrant tenderness with deep palpation.

Remainder of exam normal.

Possible Script- Answers/ Questions:

Need to Improvise- depending upon student questions. Remember to keep it short, talking can only last not more than 5- 7 minutes, because students also have to take vitals.

Medical Students: Why are you here?

Patient: I have a pain in my stomach after I eat my meals. It’s like a cramping or gripping feeling. Goes away after 10-20 minutes.

Medical Student: How long have you had them?

Patient: For about 2 weeks. I thought it would go away, but no. I get them, I think after I eat fatty foods. I know, I am not supposed to. I have high cholesterol too.

Medical Student: Are you on any medication for it?

Patient: No. I try to really watch my diet, but its really hard, stress with my children.

Medical Student: Any other pains?

Patient: I get nauseas but I don’t feel like vomiting. No diarrhea. Everything else seems normal. You know what? My mom and older sister had “gallbladder problems”, do you think that might have a connection to my stomach?

Medical Student: Anything else?

Patient: Do you think I would need surgery for this? I’m a Jehovah’s Witness, and we can’t receive blood transfusions.

Main Ideas:

1. Describe pain
2. Denial about high cholesterol, obesity
3. Sister and Mom’s gallbladder problems.
4. Jehovah Witness- surgery concerns