

# Station Vignette

You are a third-year student on GP rotation.

The GP has asked you to take a brief history from Sallie Tallai, a 25-year-old man who has come into the practice with chronic and severe pelvic pain.

### Vital signs:

- **Temperature:** 37.1 degrees Celsius.

- **Blood pressure:** 110/70 mmHg.

Heart rate: 78/minute.Respirations: 14/minute.

- **BMI:** 22 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

#### **TASK**

You have a total of **7 minutes** to take a history.

#### This includes:

- History of presenting complaint
- Constitutional history
- Past medical history
- Medications history
- Social history
- Family history
- Focussed systems review.

At the end of the allotted time, you will have **1 minute** to answer the examiner's questions.

You do **NOT** need to complete a physical examination.

## **EXAMINER QUESTIONS**

- 1. State three (3) complications that can occur as a result of endometriosis.
- 2. What is the most characteristic **gross feature** of this condition?
- 3. State the **two (2)** main theories that attempt to explain the pathophysiology of endometriosis.

	Question	Patient Information Grade
Introduction		
Presenting complaint		☐ Chronic pelvic pain. /1
Pain history	Site Onset Character Radiation Associated symptoms Timing Exacerbating/relieving factors Severity	□ S – Pelvic area and lower abdomen.  • – Occurring for 2 years.  □ C – Dull. □ R – No radiation. □ A – Associated with vomiting sometimes. □ T – Constant. □ E – Exacerbated by sex, but sometimes relieved after defaecation. □ S – Mid-score (5 to 6 out of
		10).
General/constitutional history	General health  Energy levels  Weight changes Appetite Diet  Night sweats, fevers, and chills  Sleep	<ul> <li>□ Generally been well but pain has had a negative effect on life responsibilities.</li> <li>□ Energy has been slightly decreased due to pain.</li> <li>□ No weight changes recently.</li> <li>□ Slightly decreased appetite.</li> <li>□ Diet includes all food groups.</li> <li>□ Fever and chills not present.</li> <li>□ No night sweats.</li> <li>□ Sleep has been good overall, but sometimes loses some if pain is bad.</li> </ul>
Systems review	<ul> <li>Menstrual</li> <li>Duration and amount.</li> <li>Menarche.</li> <li>Regularity.</li> <li>Intermenstrual bleeding.</li> <li>Post-coital bleeding.</li> <li>Dysmenorrhoea.</li> </ul> Sexual <ul> <li>Activity.</li> </ul>	Menstrual  ☐ Typically 5 to 8 days of bleeding with 27 days in between. Periods are regular.  ☐ Bleeds through three pads per day.  ☐ No bleeding between periods.  ☐ No post-coital bleeding.  ☐ Periods are painful for the first 2 to 3 days, but this settles.
	<ul><li>Type of sex.</li><li>Partners.</li></ul>	oral and vaginal sex.

	History of sexually	☐ Three partners in the past	
	transmitted infections (STIs).  Dyspareunia.  Discharge.  Contraceptive use.	year.  Has been tested for STIs in the past but has never actually had one.  Sex can be painful on deep penetration.  Normal clear vaginal discharge.  On the combined oral contraceptive pill. Has been taking pill solely for contraception for the last year.	
	Obstetric     Past pregnancies.     Current pregnancy.	Obstetric  Never been pregnant. Has not taken a pregnancy test in the last 3 weeks.	
	Urinary	Urinary No urinary symptoms.	
	Controlintontinal	Gastrointestinal	
	Gastrointestinal Pain.	<ul><li>Pain is confined to the pelvis.</li></ul>	
	Nausea and vomiting.	□ Sometimes feels nauseated with the period pain if it becomes too severe. □ Vomiting not present.	
Medications history and allergies	Prescribed, over the counter, and herbal remedies  Allergies		/2
Medical history	Past and current medical conditions	<ul><li>No past medical conditions.</li></ul>	/1
Surgical history	Surgical procedures	age of 22.	/1
Social history	Home situation Occupation Immunisations	☐ Things are well at home. ☐ Primary school teacher (not too stressful). ☐ Up to date with	/6
	Substance use (smoking, alcohol, and recreational drugs)  Travel  Pets	immunisations.  Never smoked, consumes 3 standard drinks per night on the weekends. Never taken any recreational drugs.  Not travelled anywhere	
		recently.  No pets at home.	
Family history	Parents' health		/2

	recurrent miscarriages		
	Conditions that run in the before patient was born.		
	family	/3	
Questions	□□□ <b>Q1</b> – 0.5 point each, any 3 of: ectopic pregnancy,		
	decreased fertility, bowel obstruction, anaemia, urinary		
	retention, and ovarian cancer.		
	□ <b>Q2</b> – 0.5 points for: Chocolate cysts (blood-filled cysts)		
	□□ Q3 – 0.5 points each: retrograde menstruation (most		
	accepted) and metaplastic change		
Communication Skills	☐ Appropriate questioning style		
	☐ Actively listens to patient		
	☐ Systematic approach to history taking		
	☐ Appropriate conclusion and summary		
Global score	Overall impression of candidate based on warmth, clarity		
	and competence:		
	1 = fail		
	2 = borderline		
	3 = pass/expected		
	4 = good		
	5 = excellent		
Total score		/60	
Comments:			