



## **Scenario one**

You are the GP. It is Friday afternoon. You have almost finished a long surgery, when the receptionist informs you that there is an “extra” patient who wants to see you, who is currently not registered at your practice, but says he is feeling very unwell.

You agree to see the patient. When he comes in he looks unkempt and extremely thin. He looks pale and sweaty and anxious.

He tells you that he is 35 and he has recently come from Scotland in search of work. He does not have any family. He is not registered with a GP in your area and for at least 15 years interspersed with periods of treatment, which have been more off than on, he has been injecting heroin.

He now says that he feels suicidal, he wants to get away from heroin once and for all and he needs your help urgently.

- 1. What else would you ask this patient?**
- 2. What examination would you perform?**
- 3. What investigations would you carry out?**
- 4. How would you perform a quick risk assessment of this patient?**
- 5. What options do you have as to how to proceed?**

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**10<sup>th</sup> October 2006**