TUTORIAL GUIDES FOR YEAR 4 STUDENTS

Spotting common cancers

Yr 4 learning objective: *Describe how these 4 common cancers (lung, bowel, prostate, breast) might present and know how to reach a definite diagnosis.*

PRE TUTORIAL

- Could suggest they briefly review the NICE guidance for identifying cancer, focussing on these four conditions

TUTORIAL

- Establish rapport – the student likely has had some exposure to cancer in their family. Cup of tea, break the ice and enquire about how the placement / life is going.
- Then establish entry knowledge. “What do you know about how these cancers present?” “How would we investigate people with these symptoms?” They may know a good amount about some conditions from their hospital placements. How have patients ended up in hospital clinics they have seen i.e. 2ww awareness? Which areas would they like to focus on in the tutorial?
- Areas to cover in the tutorial include the concept of red flags in primary care. What might they be for each cancer? How might they present? Discuss barn door Sx e.g. smoker and haemoptysis, breast lumps; insidious Sx e.g. weight loss, fatigue; incidental e.g. blood results – raised PV, anaemia, thrombocytosis
- How would the student propose investigations for cancer to a patient, especially with the new PPV of only 3%? How would they follow up / support a patient during the uncertain investigation phase?
- What are the usual definitive investigations – what should the patient expect when you send them to the hospital?
- What about managing worried patients without worrying Sx e.g. PSA screening, breast pain?
- Check understanding – quick fire red flag quiz, investigation quiz

POST TUTORIAL

- Agree to check the identification of red flags when consulting next patients
- GP to keep a bank of case anecdotes to use when teaching about presentation or management