

OSCE

Candidate information

A 24 year old male was at the gym yesterday when he suffered sudden onset of severe chest pain. Your RMO has seen him and ordered an ECG (normal) and CXR.

Your RMO is asking how to assess and manage this patient.

Domain	%
Medical expertise	50
Prioritisation and decision making	
Communication	
Teamwork and collaboration	
Leadership and management	
Health advocacy	
Scholarship and teaching	50
Professionalism	

Pneumothorax

Actor (RMO) information

You are a junior RMO who has seen a 24 year old male who suffered acute chest pain at the gym yesterday. His CXR shows a large primary pneumothorax. You have asked your Consultant to guide you in the assessment and management of the patient.

Prompts:

- Difference between primary/secondary pneumothorax
- How to assess the size of the pneumothorax
- Management options: pigtail, catheter, ICC – including reasons for each
- Role of oxygen supplementation
- Advice re when he can fly or dive again

Marking:

- Catheter – 2.5L max aspiration
- If primary PTx and well/no SOB, conservative management may be an option with Xray in 2 weeks to ensure resolution
- Oxygen increases rate of improvement due to nitrogen washout
- One week before flying
- No diving unless has talc pleurodesis
- Advise patient to stop smoking

	Mark
Identifies large pneumothorax with need for intervention	2
Clear understanding of options for different management options	2
Explains role of oxygen in pneumothorax	1
Explains need for pt to stop smoking	1
States no diving without talc pleurodesis	2
Specifies cannot fly for one week	1
Offers education resources – eg BTS algorithm on pneumothorax	1

