

Examiner Instructions

A. Construct

The candidate demonstrates the ability to interpret the record card, reaches a reasoned provisional diagnosis of a posterior vitreous detachment (PVD), and explains the diagnosis and management to the patient.

B. Station specific instructions

N/A

C. Objectives

Content

1. Explanation of clinical findings

- No evidence of retinal tear or vitreous floaters
- All other results normal i.e. equal VAs, equal IOPs, full visual fields

2. Condition

- Gives reasoned provisional diagnosis of a PVD

3. Management

- No referral necessary
- Explains all possible symptoms of retinal detachment or tear, and the need for immediate action should any reoccur

Communication

4. Relating to the Patient

- Introduces self to patient
- Is polite, considerate and respectful
- Acknowledges the patient's concerns and is empathetic, if applicable

5. Explaining and Advising

- Gives correct information in a way the patient can understand
- Makes the patient aware of the appropriate options available, if applicable
- Involves the patient fully in decisions about care, if applicable
- Summarises and checks the patient has understood
- Reassures appropriately

6. Fluency of Performance

- Logical
- Confident
- Professional

Candidate instructions

Joseph Rawlins, a 53-year-old man, is a regular patient at your practice. He is here today because three days ago he experienced a sudden onset of flashing lights in the right eye. They had ceased by the following day.

He hasn't experienced anything like this before and has no other symptoms.

His history is unremarkable. His general health is good. He does not suffer from headaches and has not suffered any trauma. There is no family history of eye problems.

You have conducted a full ocular examination. Read the record card showing your results.

Explain to the patient all the findings of your examination, what might be wrong with him and what you recommend.

You have five minutes for this station

Simulated patient instructions

Background

You are Joseph Rawlins, a 53-year-old sales director for a large company. You visit your optometrist regularly to have your eyes examined and your contact lenses checked. You have daily progressive soft lenses and have never had any problems with them or your sight.

Presentation

Whilst driving to work three days ago you noticed flashing lights from your right eye. These continued on and off for most of the day and stopped by the following day. You have never had these types of symptoms before. You decided to make an appointment with your optometrist and have come in today. You have not had any recent accidents or any injuries. You don't have any other symptoms such as veiling or blurred vision. You cannot recall seeing any black spots or cobweb type features floating in front of either eye.

Past History

You have had no problems with your eyes. You have never seen a doctor about your eyes, or been to an eye hospital/eye unit.

General Health

You have never been seriously ill and are not on any medication. You do not suffer from migraine type headaches.

Family History

You are not aware that any member of your family has had eye problems apart from your 82-year-old mother who is developing a small cataract.

How to Play the Role

You feel anxious in case it is this serious. You are fretting because you have a busy week at work.

Questions to ask if given the opportunity

- What are the long-term effects – will I go blind?
- What happens next?
- Can I do anything to avoid this happening again?

Examination findings

Name: Joseph Rawlins

Age: 53

	R	L
VA	6/6 N5	6/6 N5
Refraction	-2.00DS Add +2.00 R & L	-2.00DS
Pupils	No RAPD	No RAPD
IOP Perkins at 2pm	15mmHg	15mmHg
Visual Fields Humphrey C81	Full	Full
Anterior Vitreous	Clear No tobacco dust	Clear No tobacco dust
Optic disc	CD 0.2 Healthy neural rim, disc margins distinct	CD 0.2 Healthy neural rim, disc margins distinct
Dilated fundus examination	Retina flat, no visible breaks/ tears	Retina flat, no visible breaks/ tears