

## INFORMATION FOR PATIENT PARTNER – CASE 3 (CLINIC SIM)

**NAME** Steven / Susan Wallace

**DOB** Around 50

### CONTEXT

You have come to A&E today partly because your friend Jimmy persuaded you and partly because you feel your head is 'fuzzy'. You are a little unkempt.

This is a difficult case of a patient presenting with deterioration in their mental health and significant thoughts of harming their neighbours. This patient has schizophrenia but do not offer this information to the doctor.

### BEHAVIOUR

During the interview with the doctor you are very suspicious, avoiding eye contact and answering in short answers. You look over your shoulder occasionally as if hearing or seeing something. If the doctor asks directly why you are doing this simply state; 'I thought I saw/heard something, but there's nothing there.'

Initially you volunteer little information, denying there is a significant problem. You feel angry with Jimmy for hassling you, however Jimmy did persuade you to talk to the doctor so you will do that because you know he is the only person that looks out for you, and you trust him.

As the consultation continues you can begin to reveal more and more information.

### OPENING STATEMENT

'My friend Jimmy, insisted I come to A&E today -- he is worried about me and I'm worried about my fuzzy head. I just need a tablet to sort it out.'

### INFORMATION TO REVEAL FURTHER INTO THE CONSULTATION

Your head has been very 'fuzzy' recently and you think it may be due to your poor sleep pattern. You are keen to get something to help you sleep.

Your mood is fine – 'good days, bad days – like everyone'. You have no thoughts of harming yourself. You have been neglecting yourself recently and have not really been taking care of your appearance. Your friend, Jimmy, persuaded you to go out last night with some other students to the local pub. You ended up in an argument with someone who lives in a flat next door to you because you accused them of talking

about you. The situation escalated and you ended up starting a fight. Jimmy managed to diffuse the situation and avoided the police being involved but you were thrown out of the pub.

Eventually, you tell the doctor there is a plot by “politicians” directed at you because of your political views. Feel free to adlib with some thoughts that are unusual.

You are convinced you are being spied on and followed in the street. You hear voices calling you names and threatening to harm you. These come from people in the street when you go out. As a result you are becoming afraid to leave your room. You do not trust anyone! This is similar to what happened in the pub last night.

You are very suspicious of your neighbours. You suspect they have put cameras in your flat to spy on you but can't prove it as you can never find them. Your neighbours are always making noise and you are sure you can hear them talking about you. You are increasingly becoming suspicious that they are working for the government and are plotting against you but you can't get any actual proof of this. ('They are clearly professionals') A week ago, one of the neighbours dropped a letter round that was addressed to you saying that it had been wrongly delivered. You didn't believe this and destroyed the letter – 'it could have been poisoned...or a bomb!'.

Become a little angry when talking about your neighbours and if the doctor asks more details about this admit that you have been planning to strike out against your neighbours before they can harm you. Make reference to The Art of War by Sun Tzu, quoting 'the best form of defence is attack'. A couple of days ago you passed them outside your house and you were sure they said something about planning to kidnap you. You feel you must act soon and are planning a way to 'get them'. You won't go into specifics but if backed into a corner you admit you plan to set fire to their flat. If pushed on this admit you have got hold of 'some materials' and hope to 'act soon'. Physically you feel well.

During the consultation you pick up on things the doctor says and take them out of context. For example, taking a line they say that matches the line from a song/film and referring to or even singing this or taking a word they have said and using it with an alternative meaning or context.

### **Past Medical History:**

You have been on medication for several years for “agitation” but you do not like taking it as it makes you tired. If asked be vague, if pushed say the name of the tablets is olanzapine. You are not sure what strength of tablet you are on

and people keep changing the dose, so you get mixed up. You can't, or won't, name the doctors who treat you, nor can you recall when or where you were last seen. You have been admitted to hospital in the past but that was around 5 years ago and you don't really want to discuss it.

No other medical problems.

### **Social Background**

You are a 'mature' university student reading Politics and Economics. You have not been attending lectures for several weeks and have been spending most of your time in your room. You live in a rented flat alone. You are a bit of a loner and have few friends.

You have no family or support nearby. Your parents live in England and they do not know anything about this. In fact you do not want to involve them, as they may be in danger.

You drink 5--6 pints of beer a week – depending on money.

You smoke cannabis most days but have never used any other illicit drugs.

### **Family History**

None of note

### **Doctors Assessment**

The doctor will take a history to explore your symptoms.

When the doctor suggests that you need to be seen by a psychiatrist today you are resistant to do this. Before, when things were upsetting, you ended up in hospital and were given strong drugs by way of injections. You do not want that to happen again. You know the psychiatrists all work for the NHS which is a government organisation and they might try and lock you up.

Whatever the doctor does to persuade you or explain their reasoning you refuse and state that you just want to go home if they are not going to just give you something for your head. It is likely some negation will follow, when they insist that you see someone today you can get up and leave...