

# **Unit 12 : Consulting a Health Care Specialist**



- Expressing a health complaint and feelings.
- Asking for the patient's complaint
- Asking for and giving advice. Accepting it.
- Expressing sympathy
- Thanking and responding to thanks.
- Interrupting and asking for clarification.

## Objectives:

- Describe health complaints and feelings orally and in writing.
- Use expressions to ask for and give advice about medical problems orally and in writing.

## Talking about a health problem

- I complain of loss of vision .I suffer from dry mouth . I have had vomiting and diarrhea . I am running a high fever.
- **Asking how someone feels:** How do you feel ?
- **Expressing how someone feels:** I feel happy and optimistic ./ I feel upset

- **Asking for advice:** What should I do? What do you think I should do?
- 
- **Giving advice:** You 'd better visit the ophthalmologist . You ought to go to the hospital on Monday . (ought to = should )
- **Accepting advice:** I`ll do as you say.
- **Expressing sympathy:** What a pity !

# TOPICS OF THE UNITS

**Thanking:** Thanks a bunch. Thanks a lot

**Responding to thanks:**  
Don't mention it .

**Interrupting:** Excuse me .  
Sorry to interrupt but ...  
Hold on a minute (

**Asking for clarification:**  
Pardon?, What does \_\_\_\_\_  
mean?

Read this piece of conversation and arrange it to form a coherent dialogue.

\_\_\_\_\_ Not at all.

\_\_\_\_\_ Do you feel worry about anything?

\_\_\_\_\_ Okay, I will follow your recommendations. Thank you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Oh yes! I'm worried about this medical problem I have now. What do you recommend me to do?

\_\_\_\_\_ Good afternoon, I'm Dr. Hernández, What's your complaint?

\_\_\_\_\_ Oh, I have this pain.

\_\_\_\_\_ Why don't relax a little. I think you are very tense.

**Put the conversation in order and then practice it.**

- **Some useful expressions for a doctor- patient conversation**

For the interview ask for personal data and questions that could be useful to make a diagnosis.

**Asking for complaints**

- What brings you to the hospital?/ to the clinic/ to my consulting room.
- What is your number one complaint?/ What do you complain of?
- What's the matter?

### **Asking for some symptoms.**

- Have you had...loss of appetite?/ chest pain/palpitations/ shorness of breath/ headaches/cloudy orconfusing vision/ nose bleeding/ burning on urination/pressure or tightness in your chest/ abdominal pain/nausea and vomiting.

### **Expressing agreement.**

- I think so/ I agree with you/ I share your opinion/ That´s true.

### **Disagreement**

I am sorry, but I can´t accept that I don´t think you are right./ I don´t agree with you.

- Are you taking any
- medicine?
- Are you allergic toany medication?
- Does any member of your family suffer from....
- Diabetes/ heart diseases?
- Is there any history of hypertension in your family?
- Do you have any chest pain after physical exercise?
- Do you get tired easily? Do you often have diarrhoes, constipations?
- Have you noticed blood in your urine?
- How´s your appetite?

## Non pharmacological treatment

Consume a diet rich in...  
viamines / reduce the intake  
of salt and fat /sugar/ bread/  
limit your consumption f.....

- Lose weight / practice physical exercise.
- Go on a healthy diet.

## Pharmacological treatment.

Take these tablets every six  
hours/ twice a day/ every  
twelve hours/ after/ before  
meals/at bed time.

**Don't forget doctors should be polite, kind and nice with patients. Treat them in the way you would like to be treated!**