

NR603 Week 5 iHuman Reflection

1. Reflect on your experience performing differential diagnosis and creating a comprehensive management plan during the iHuman Virtual Patient Encounter. Did you feel comfortable and confident managing these processes? Why or why not?
 1. During the iHuman Virtual Patient Encounter, I found the process of forming a differential diagnosis and a comprehensive management plan both challenging and educational. The platform can sometimes mirror real-world experiences, utilizing clinical reasoning and requiring a thorough patient history, physical exam, and diagnostic approach to accurately diagnose a patient. I feel as though I am strongest in the initial patient interview, asking relevant questions, gathering pertinent subjective information and identifying potential red flags.
 2. My comfort level decreases with prioritizing some differential diagnoses and having exact precision with the physical exam. I found that some required physical assessments were not relevant in my mind, but some lab testing that is relevant is deemed not necessary. Some of these details can change the trajectory of the management.
2. Which diagnostic tests did you select for this client? Using the estimated national average cost for each diagnostic test from a website such as MD Save, calculate the total cost for diagnostic testing if the client was uninsured. How might this information influence your decisions regarding diagnostic testing for this client?
 1. **CBC:** MD Save regional average is \$16
 2. **CMP:** MD Save regional average is \$28
 3. **Chest X-ray:** MD Save regional average \$135 - national average is \$282.
 4. **Sputum culture:** MD Save regional average \$37
 5. **CD4:** Approximately \$50
 6. **Lactic acid:** MD Save regional average \$28
 7. **ABG:** MD Save regional average \$280 - national average is \$509.
 1. (American Medical Association, 2025).
 8. Adding these together with the savings is approximately \$574. For uninsured patients, it's important to focus on the high-yield, lower cost tests first, such as lab work and a chest x-ray. In a severely ill patient, it is important not to delay antifungal therapy; therefore, targeted testing should be utilized, but it is important for the provider to discuss this with the patient. Community health centers and outpatient labs can help with baseline, follow-up up and allow lower cost imaging, delivering comprehensive and cost-effective care (NACHC, 2024).
3. Applying what you have learned to your clinical practice, reflect on your experience performing differential diagnosis in a face-to-face