Ashkir Yusef Case Study

Ashkir Yusef is a 14-year-old male who has emigrated from outside Mogadishu, Federal Republic of Somalia, with his mother and three younger siblings. Ashkir is the spokesperson for the family, and his mother remains quiet during the conversation with the female nurse at the border clinic. Ashkir reports that his father was violently killed in a rural town near his home and that he and his family fled for safety to America after being threatened by looters. He speaks fluent Arabic and has basic English skills. The family self-identifies as conservative Muslim faith.

In an attempted initial physical assessment, the nurse determines that Ashkir is unwilling to remove his clothing. He voices concern about having a female provide medical care for him and his family. A male RN is requested and the physical assessment is continued.

Findings from the physical assessment reveal mild malnourishment and underweight status, dehydration as evidenced by urine specific gravity, anemia with blood analysis, and a noted upper respiratory infection with a productive cough. Ashkir complains of a sore throat and congestion.

When questioned about immunizations, Ashkir says that he knows he “got shots” on four occasions. His mother agrees that he began his immunization schedule late in his childhood and it was abandoned due to the conditions of the community. No documentation is provided, and no data base is available for reference regarding Ashkir’s immunization status. At this time, the RN uses the CDC guidelines and draws a titer before beginning a re-administration of immunizations.

The laboratory work identifies a positive titer (immunity) for varicella. The titers for MMR and HepB are negative.

Ashkir also tests positive for TB using the Mantoux skin test (read 48 hours later).