Clinical Skills Writing Assignment

Assignment #1: Summarizing the “Chief Complaint” and writing a “History of Present Illness”

_Here is a sample of how you might capture the patient’s chief complaint:_

**CC:** sore throat for 3 days duration

_What follows is a representative History of Present Illness (HPI) section from this audio case. While some variation from this would be expected and acceptable, this is a good exemplar of what a physician might document in the HPI section of a complete History & Physical (H&P) write-up._

**HPI:** The patient was in her usual state of good health until 3 days ago when she began feeling warm while sitting at her desk at work and went home early.

The next morning, she woke up with a severe sore throat, described as feeling like swallowing sand paper. The pain occurs mostly with swallowing and gets better over the course of the day. The pain does not radiate. It is not relieved by Advil or gargling with salt water. The sore throat is associated with a fever of 101°F and slight rhinorrhea, but no chills, cough, skin rashes or ear problems. She also noted a few painful lumps in her neck. The patient has a history of strep throat infections as a teenager, but not recently. One of her co-workers had a “strep throat.”