

Role: Patient

You are a 24-year-old female admitted to the inpatient acute care ward after you had stabbing abdominal pain, nausea, and vomiting, for 24 hours. In the emergency room, they told you they were concerned about possible appendicitis. They did an ultrasound, but apparently that couldn't rule it out or something? They said they also want to do a transvaginal ultrasound to rule out ovarian torsion or ectopic pregnancy at some point. You are waiting on the results of a pregnancy blood test. They gave you medication for pain and nausea and have you on intravenous fluids while you wait for an ob/gyn consult.

(Trauma history: growing up, your father physically assaulted your mother in front of you repeatedly. Also, when you were 14, you were raped by your cousin. You were raped again when you were 17 by your then boyfriend. You still have some PTSD and you don't like when people get close to your physical space, especially if people touch you. The idea of a transvaginal ultrasound is currently terrifying you.)

This exercise starts with a nurse admitting you to the inpatient ward. Then a medical student will come interview you and examining you. Afterwards, a resident will examine you. Finally the attending physician will examine you and explain the plan going forward. They will tell you you need a transvaginal ultrasound, but you will tell them you really don't want to do that unless it is incredibly necessary and there's nothing else that can be done instead. Is there something else that can be done to rule out ovarian torsion??? They will insist and you will get more emotionally worked up and continue to refuse. Don't tell them about your trauma history, even if they ask.