

CASE NOTES – Post-influenza deafness

SAMPLE Answer

ENT Specialist
Hollerby ENT Clinic

19 February, 2017

Dear Dr. Simms,

Re: Tammy Le

Thank you for urgent assessment of this 10 year old asthmatic whose hearing loss comes a week after in-patient treatment for influenza.

Tammy presented on 11 February with sore throat, headache, myalgia and coughing for the preceding three days, vomiting for the preceding two days, and sleeping more than usual for the previous 24 hours. She was lethargic with a fever of 39.4C, mildly tachypnoeic (respiratory rate 31/min) with mild bronchospasm, and had an inflamed throat. Blood and urine results were consistent with viral infection and mild dehydration, and diagnoses of influenza and mild bronchospasm were made. She received a tepid sponge bath and Acetaminophen to decrease her fever, Ventolin inhaler two puffs every six hours, and IV fluids for rehydration.

Over the next two days, she improved considerably and by day 4, she was well and actively playing. She was discharged on Acetaminophen and Ventolin inhaler as needed, should her symptoms recur.

These did not recur. However, today it has been reported that for the last two days, she has been having difficulty hearing her teacher at school and the television at home. A tuning fork test does show decreased hearing both sides, R greater than L, but no other abnormality is noted.

I would be grateful if you would assess Tammy more thoroughly and manage as appropriate. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,
Dr. Brady