EMT Basic Scenario – Respiratory Emergencies - 1

Dispatch: You are called to a dorm room at the local college for a 19-year-old female having difficulty breathing. Campus Police are on scene.

Takes, or verbalizes, body substance isolation precautions	Scene is Safe
Determines the mechanism of injury/nature of illness	Respiratory
Determines the number of patients	1
Requests additional help if necessary	Yes – ALS Enroute
Considers stabilization of spine	None
Verbalizes general impression of the patient	19-yr-old breathing rapidly and crying.
Determines responsiveness/level of consciousness	Responsive/A&O X4
Determines chief complaint/apparent life threats	Difficulty breathing
	Airway is Open
Assesses airway and breathing	Rate: Tachypneic
Indicates appropriate oxygen therapy	Symmetrical rise and fall of the chest
Assures adequate ventilation	(Oxygen via NRB mask at 15 L/min and coach on slowing breathing down)
Assesses circulation	
	Bleeding – none
Assesses/controls major bleeding	
	Pulse—Tachycardic and strong
Assesses pulse	
	Skin - Flushed, warm, and moist
Assesses skin (color, temperature, and condition)	
Identifies priority patients/makes transport decisions	High Priority
OPQRST	O— on the phone with her boyfriend and he broke up with her P—nothing Q—no pain R—No pain (other than a broken heart) S— 8 out of 10 on her distress T—Approximately 15 minutes
SAMPLE history	A – none M—none P— none L— 3 hours ago E— her boyfriend just broke up with her

Performs Secondary Assessment (assess affected body part/system)	Questions: Have you had past anxiety attacks? Answer: Yes I have
Vitals (obtains baseline vital signs)	Blood pressure—140/70 mm Hg
	Pulse—120 beats/min
	Respirations—32 breaths/min
	SaO2—99% on NRB
Field Impression	(Student should provide appropriate Field Impression
	from info above) – Patient is hyperventilating and
	having an anxiety attack
	Oxygen via NRB mask at 15 L/min.
Interventions (obtains medical direction or	
verbalizes standing order for medication	Place the patient in a position of comfort.
interventions and verbalizes proper additional	
intervention/treatment)	Attempted to coach the patient on slowing her
	breathing down.
	Mental status unchanged.
	Airway and breathing unchanged.
Ongoing assessment	
	Blood pressure—130/70 mm Hg
	Pulse—110 beats/min
	Respirations—24 breaths/min
	SaO2—99% on 100% oxygen via NRB mask at 15 L/min
Hand off Report	(Student should provide appropriate hand off report
	from info above)