**Appendix 1 – Patient Case Scenario**

Alifa is a 33yo Saudi woman who presents to your community pharmacy with a new prescription from a Walk-in Clinic doctor (not her regular family doctor) that read’s: **Prednisone 15mg ONCE DAILY for 5 days.**

Prior to filling the prescription you ask her a few questions (as you always do with new prescriptions) to ensure that the prescription is going to be safe and effective for her.

**Here is the information that you collected:**

* You confirm the information on your dispensing software that she continues to have no medication allergies.
* You confirm that her current medication list on your dispensing software is up to date and accurate (see the list below).
* You confirm that ASTHMA is the only relevant medical condition on her profile.
* You collect a few details about the complaint that is being treated with this new prescription.
  + Over the past 2 weeks she has noticed that her asthma has been worse than normal (she thinks it is because her kids keep coming home from school with colds).
  + She doesn't report any specific trigger other than colds and flus.
  + She has had asthma since she was a child and had always used Montelukast pills and salbutamol inhalers to control her asthma (she has always been scared to take “steroids”)
  + Since moving to Canada/Qatar 3 years ago from Saudi Arabia her family doctor wanted to switch her to a Fluticasone inhaler, which she reluctantly agreed to try (despite her fear of taking steroids). Her asthma became much better managed. While taking Montelukast she needed to use her Salbutamol about once per day, but after switching to Fluticasone she only needed salbutamol about once per week.
  + She admits that nowadays she only uses the Fluticasone intermittently (to reduce the amount of steroids that she takes) and probably takes it about 3 times per week.
  + Over the past 2 weeks she has been wheezy and breathless several times a day, sometimes even at rest. She also has been waking at night about once per night with a feeling of shortness of breath. She has been using her salbutamol 6-8 times per day. This weekend she was feeling so bad she went to a walk-in clinic to get checked out (her regular doctor’s office was closed).
  + She was told that she was not sick enough to be in the hospital, but that she needed something for a few days to get the inflammation in her lungs under control AND she was told to start taking her Fluticasone every day (at the same dose she was previously prescribed).
  + She is very reluctant to take the new prescription (because she knows it is an even more powerful steroid), and she continues to be reluctant to take her Fluticasone regularly.
  + You check her inhaler technique and it is excellent.

Current meds

* Flovent (fluticasone) MDI 125ug – TWO inhalations BID
* Salbutamol MDI 100ug – PRN
* Multivitamin once daily
* Vitamin D 1000 IU once daily
* Aerochamber spacer device (*Rx filled one time ~1 year ago*)

Other information on computer system

* Has a good drug plan (pays 100%)
* Height 5’4; weight 50kg
* Mother of school aged three kids
* Non-smoker and no smokers in her house
* Offered flu shot in clinic, but declined

**Identify Alifa’s drug therapy problems and develop a care plan that is practical and patient centred.**