

Instructional Module 8: Management & Community Nursing Case Study Group Discussion

Group 2: _____, _____, _____.

Case Study # 2 Environmental Health

Peter L. is a school nurse at Infinity Elementary School, which was built in 1961. Nurse Peter has noticed that many students from Ms. Taylor's second grade class have come to the clinic complaining about coughing, sneezing, runny nose, and watery eyes. Nurse Peter has also observed Krystal Little is the only asthmatic student in Ms. Taylor's class, has had more asthma attacks this year than she did last year. Because the rest of the school is not experiencing the same respiratory problems. Nurse Peter is concerned that something in Ms. Taylor's classroom is causing students to feel ill.

Nurse Peter decides to visit Ms. Taylor's classroom. Upon entering the classroom, located in the school's basement. Peter is struck by the powerful musty smell that inhabits the room. Also, Nurse Peter notes that Ms. Taylor has stuffed a blanket at the base of the small rectangular window near the ceiling because the window does not close completely. Nurse Peter suspects classroom walls are contaminated with mold and is concerned about the possible mold contamination effect on Krystal, the asthmatic student.

Questions:

1. Identify the agent, host, and environment in this case study, and describe how they interacted to bring about the occurrence of disease.
2. What can Nurse Peter do to learn more about indoor air quality (IAQ) and about what to do in case of mold?
3. What are some possible interventions that Nurse Peter could apply to address the mold contamination in Ms. Taylor's room?