

# Talk Show

Patient: Good morning. Long time no see.

Friend: Hello... How are you doing today?

P: Not good.

F: What happened? You look quite tired.

P: Oh, yes, I do feel very tired.

F: Anything wrong with you?

P: I don't know. But my head is turning like a windmill, and also I feel vomiting, plus chest pain.

F: Vomiting, chest pain and turning head. That's something we... seniors... need to be careful. Do you need any help?

P: I think that I do need some help, because I am an empty nest senior; my daughter is busy with her two kids. And my son is dating his girl friend.

F: Do you want someone to drive you to the hospital or to your family doctor?

P: To the emergency in a hospital is good. But that means a long wait. probably 6 to 7 hours and I really don't want to wait that long.

F: Do you want to see your family doctor then?

P: That would be nice. Yet, to see my family doctor, I need to call first and to make an appointment. Since I really feel bad now, I want to go to a doctor right now.

F: Don't worry; and we can make it. I have an idea. You can do a WALK-IN.

P: What is the WALK-IN? How can I DO a WALK-IN; I don't know how to do a WALK-IN. Where is the WALK-IN and when is the WALK-IN, and how does the WALK-IN look like? Is it like a McDonald where you just walk in to order a big Mac? Can you help me?

F: A WALK-IN is a medical clinic, a kind of health care provider, where a doctor is ready to take care of you.

P: That would be nice, and I like that. But I still don't know where it is. Furthermore, I don't drive and how can I get there.

F: Don't worry. I happen to know a WALK-IN close by...not far from here...about 5 blocks away from here. I am free this morning and can drive you there.

P: How nice! Thank you very much and thank you for your kindness.

F: Let's hit the road. Are you ready?

P: Wait! I don't have my health card with me now and I need to go home first.

F: That's not a big thing. I can drive you home first.

P: Wonderful! A mountain of thanks!

F: Welcome. Let's go.

P: Where is your car? Where do you park your car?

F: Not too far away...only 2 blocks away...on the side street.

P: Oh, No. You said you parked your car in the street; you'd get a ticket.

F: Don't worry. Parking car on side street in Mississauga is OK, but it should be no more than 3 hours by daytime.

P: Is that right? My son got a ticket from police because he parked his car in the street and had to pay 20 dollars.

F: Street and side street are different. Parking on side street is fine by by-law. Here we are and here is my car, the grey Honda. Let me get my car key....and where is my car key and where did I put it? Usually I put my car key in my hand bag.

P: Take your time, you'd find it. You are a very organized person. Everybody says that.

F: Oh, here we go. The car key is in my pocket. Get in now. Do you want to sit beside me or sit at back?

P: I have car sickness. Sitting at back is better.

F: Ready now? Are you attached?

P: What is attached? I am not attached to anybody. I am independent...even from my daughter and son.

F: No...no. By attached means you need to wear seat belt. It's a law. If you don't... I'll be in trouble, and it could mean a fine of a couple of hundred dollars.     Page2

P: I am OK now, and we can go now.

F: Ok, let me start my car. (Car engine roaring)

P: You have a nice car, quiet and clean.

F: Thank you. It's my baby. It is a second hand, but looks and also works like a brand new ... powerful plus fuel efficient. (Driving.....stop at P's house to get OHIP and on the road again)

P: Are we there yet? How long does it take to get to the Walk-in.

F: Just in a couple of minutes. You can see it now, about 200 meters on the right...that green building.

P: Oh, yes, yes, I've seen it. I've seen the building as well as the sign---"Walk In" now.

F: Here we are. Let's get in. Oh, there are not many people here today. We therefore don't need to wait long. (Going to the reception desk and talking to the receptionist)

R (Receptionist) Hello good morning, what can I help?

P: I need a doctor.

R: We have Dr. Wang and Dr. Mike; one is Chinese and the other western. Is this your first time here? Do you have your health card with you?

P: First time here...first time to a Walk-in...my friend knows that. Usually I went to my family doctor. But, today, it is different..... (Non-stop talking....)

R: Ok...Ok...Don't worry. You will be well taken care of here. Now, tell me....what is your first name and your last, your home address and home phone number.

P: What is first name and last name? I have only one name. My name is Ma Daha. Someone calls me Mr. Ma...and some others just call me Daha. Anyway, I am known as MaDaha in the community. If you don't believe me, just ask MJCSA, they all know me; I'm quite a star here.

F: Let me help. His last name or family name is Ma, and first name is Daha. Different from Westerners, we Chinese put last name first and first name last.

R: Got it, Mr. Madaha. Be seated. I'll call you. Also you need to fill out a form, telling us your home address and phone number. Perhaps, your friend can help you out. **Page3.**

R: Dahan...Dahan...Mr. Ma...Ma...

P: Here I am. ...I'm here.....here, here.

R: Dr. Wang wants to see you...in room 2 ....on the left.

P: Is the doctor speaking Chinese?

R: Dr. Wang was born in Hong Kong, educated in Canada, speaks Cantonese, understands Mandarin, and of course is fluent in English, French plus Spanish. You can talk to him in a combo of English and Mandarin.

P: Sounds wonderful. Ok, I'll take him as my walk-in doctor then.

R: Quite a character. (Murmuring.....)

Dr: Hello. ...Mr. Ma, what can I do for you today?

P: Ni Hao, Doctor Wang. I feel awful today; and need an emergency help.

Dr. That's Ok. Calm down. Don't worry. You are in good hands and will be well taken of.

Tell me slowly what's wrong with you today, or how do you feel like today.

P: I felt an acute chest pain this morning. But now seemingly it's gone. Gone to nowhere that I don't know. Also, my head is turning like a wheel. However, it is gone, too. I don't know what has happened to me. The moment I walked in this Walk-in, my troubles are all gone. And this Walk-in is a kind of cure-all for me. This kind of thing happened before when I was in Zhongguo---China...PRC I mean.

Dr. Is that right? Let me check on you anyway. Please take off your jacket, roll up your sleeve, lie on the bed, loosen your belt, close your eyes for 2 minutes and breathe evenly, don't talk, think of nothing but happy moment in your life.

P: My life is hard. There is nothing to talk about my happiness. I live alone and feel lonely.

I miss my hometown in Shandong, miss Shandong fried-cake and local snacks.

Dr. Well, I understand you now. Physically, nothing is serious with you. All your blood pressure, heart beat, your throat, eyes, ears are fine. Homesickness might be the reason why you feel uncomfortable, short of breath, spinning head. Just get relaxed. Do a lot of walk, practise Taiji, put up a lot of smiles...you'll be fine in a couple of days.

P: Sure? Do I need any lab test, like blood work or test, X-ray or even ultra-sound. You'd better give me some drugs and vitamins to boost my health or immune system. **Page**

Dr. Don't you think it is necessary?

P: Surely I do.

Dr. But I don't. It is a waste of time, money and other medical resources. Furthermore, it is not good to your health.

P: Oh, Please.

Dr: If you don't trust me, you can try other doctors and walk-ins. I don't want to be Doctor Madaha, as simple as that.