# Question 6

You are the Foundation Year 2 doctor at General Hospital.

Bleep number: 1414 GMC number: 11235813

## **Patient details**

Patient name: Catherine Bell Date of birth: 14/3/1984 Patient number: 086 602 540

## History

Mrs Bell presented to the Emergency Department with a 2 day history of productive cough, shortness of breath, and fever.

## Examination

Respiratory Rate 28 SpO<sub>2</sub>: 92% Heart rate: 124bpm Blood pressure: 88/54mmHg Temperature 39.2°C Responds to voice.

### Task

Given the clinical context prescribe the appropriate fluid management.

# Intravenous infusion and additive record

Patient's name ......Catherine Bell.....

Patient number: ......086 602 540.....

USE CHART FOR 24 HOUR PERIOD ONLY

PRESCRIPTI	PRESCRIPTION (All IV fluids to be prescribed generically)	be preso	cribed generic:	ally)		ADMINISTRATION	RATION		
Date/Time	Infusion fluid	Volume	Drug Additive	Rate	Doctor's		Set up	Checked	Start/stop
				ml/hr	Signature	Expiry date	by	Ьу	time
01/01/23	01/01/23 0.9% sodium chloride	sooml Na	Na	STAT OR	A Brown A Brown				
				2000ml/hr					

Given the clinical context and observations the patient is likely experiencing septic shock. The initial fluid management of septic shock is a fluid bolus. The appropriate volume in this case is 500ml, although in some cases you would consider giving a reduced volume such as 250ml or no fluid, such as:

- Elderly
- Low body mass
- Fluid overloaded
  - o Heart failure
  - AKI or CKD (sometimes fluids are appropriate in AKI)
  - o Cirrhosis

Although not necessary for this question, further steps would include the rest of the sepsis six (Measure urine output, take sputum and blood culture, measure lactate, give oxygen and empirical antibiotics). You would also want to involve a senior clinician and consider discussing with intensive care.