You Are the Patient

You are a forty-year old African person from Accra, the urban capital of Ghana, West Africa. You consider yourself in excellent physical health by the standards of your upbringing. In your culture, slim physique and intense physical labor are signs of poverty and may also suggest poor intelligence. You not an overly proud person, but you are satisfied that you are quite educated, professionally trained, and have never needed to expend yourself by working in fields, markets, or factories.

You recognize that your body is plump in comparison to most of your new neighbors in the Kansas City area, and that you regularly must stop and rest when walking from the parking lot to the grocery store. But these are of no concern given the overall fitness you enjoy. You are looking forward to visiting your American nurse practitioner for the first time, and you will to defend your assessment of good health, regardless of what your practitioner says.

Role Play Scenario 2:

You Are the Physician

You are on duty at a clinic in Johnson Country, Kansas, preparing to examine a young woman who is a new student at Johnson County Community College. Her chief complaint is unusual vaginal bleeding. You immediately recognize that your new patient is from a distinct culture, and you begin by introducing yourself and explaining what the physical exam will involve.