New format SAQ 3.

A 23-year-old man with known asthma is brought to ED by ambulance with an acute exacerbation.

1. What features on history would concern you that his attack might be severe
2. What features on examination would suggest he had a severe exacerbation
3. Clinical examination confirms he has a severe episode. List and justify the investigations you would perform
4. List your immediate treatment priorities
5. Known brittle, ICU admissions, Frequent steroid courses, significant co-morbidities, known poor compliance
6. Altered LOC, reduced RR, accessory muscle use, quiet chest, signs pneumothorax, signs coinfection, cardiovascular compromise
7. CXR, coinfection/pneumothorax, ABG evidence of resp failure or hypercarbia