Medical Office Staff In-Person Scenario 1:

Long wait time - Frustrated and Angry Behaviour

Setting: Reception area of a busy walk-in clinic. **Patient Name:** Taylor Johnson (they/them)

Presenting Issue: Is in pain and feeling unwell. Long wait times.

Escalation Level: Frustrated, escalating toward anger.

[Taylor Johnson enters looking unwell and concerned. The staff member is standing behind the front desk.]

Staff: [Maintaining a neutral posture, arms relaxed, hands visible, soft eye contact, calm voice] Good afternoon. How can I help you today?

Taylor: [Looking worried] My name is Taylor Johnson. I've been a patient here before. I'm feeling unwell and need to see the doctor today. Is that possible?

Staff: [Listens actively, nods slightly, speaks gently and calmly] I'm sorry to hear that you are unwell. Do you have an appointment with us?

Taylor: [Looking worried] No, I don't.

Staff: [Speaks calmly]: Okay, thank you for letting me know. Let me check the schedule for you. [Looks at the computer] It looks like we're quite full today, and the wait time is currently over two hours.

Taylor: [Raising voice, visibly frustrated] Over two hours? This is unacceptable! I need to see a doctor now! I've had a headache for the past two days.

Staff: [Remains calm, does not interrupt, uses soft but steady tone, maintains safe posture and distance] I hear how stressful this situation must be for you. Your health is important. Let me see what I can do to help. [Pauses briefly to assess the situation and maintain a calm presence.]

Staff: [Speaks gently and clearly] Here's what I can do: I can try to fit you in if there's a no-show or a cancellation. I can also give you a call when a spot becomes available, so you don't have to wait here. Alternatively, I can schedule you for a phone appointment. Which option would work best for you?

Taylor: [Sighs] Okay, I guess you can fit me in when there's a no-show or cancellation.

Staff: [Nodding] Thank you, Taylor. Please have a seat, or you're welcome to come back when I give you a call.

Taylor: [Calming down] Thank you. I appreciate your help.

Staff: [Smiling gently] You're welcome.





