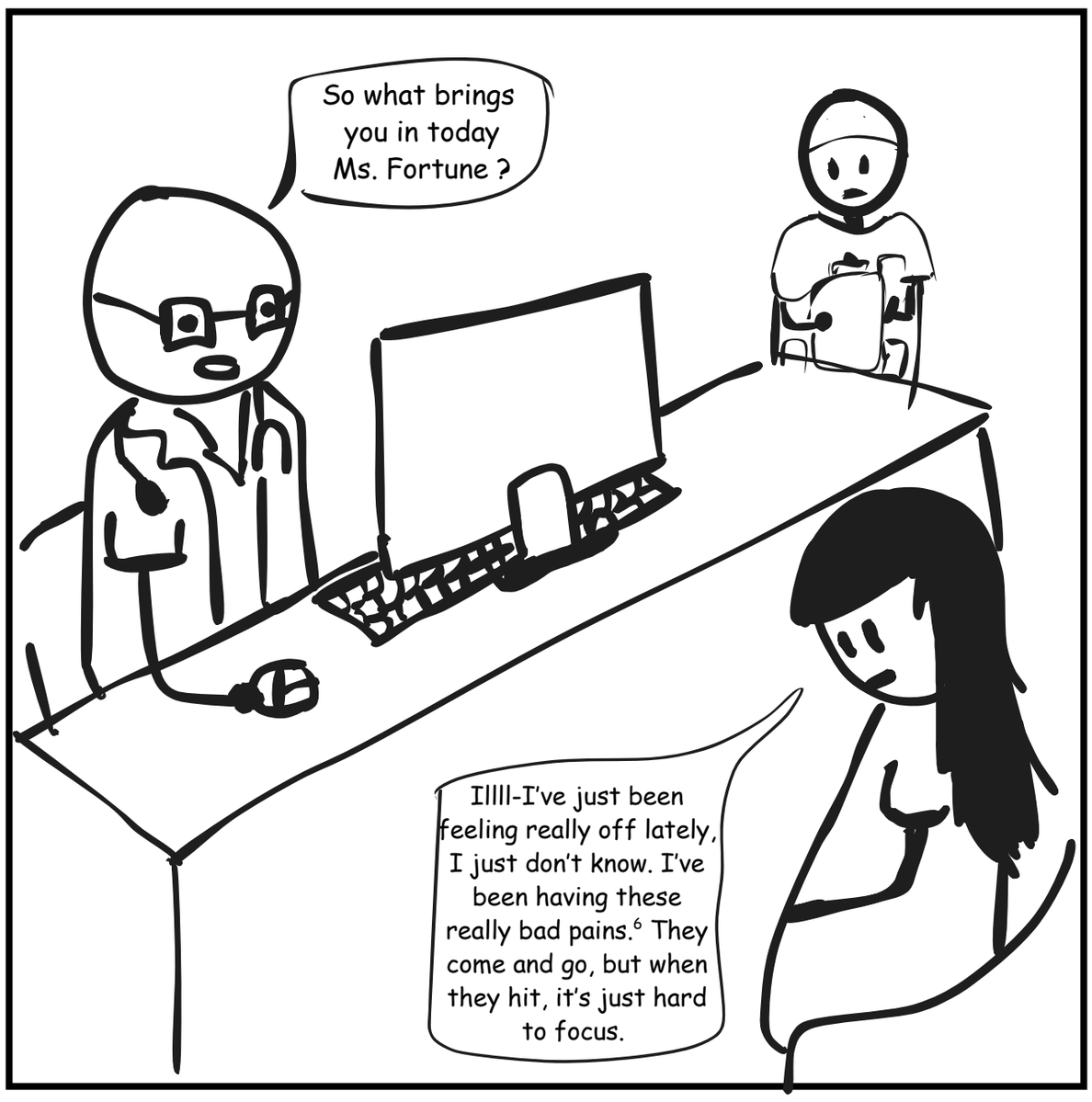
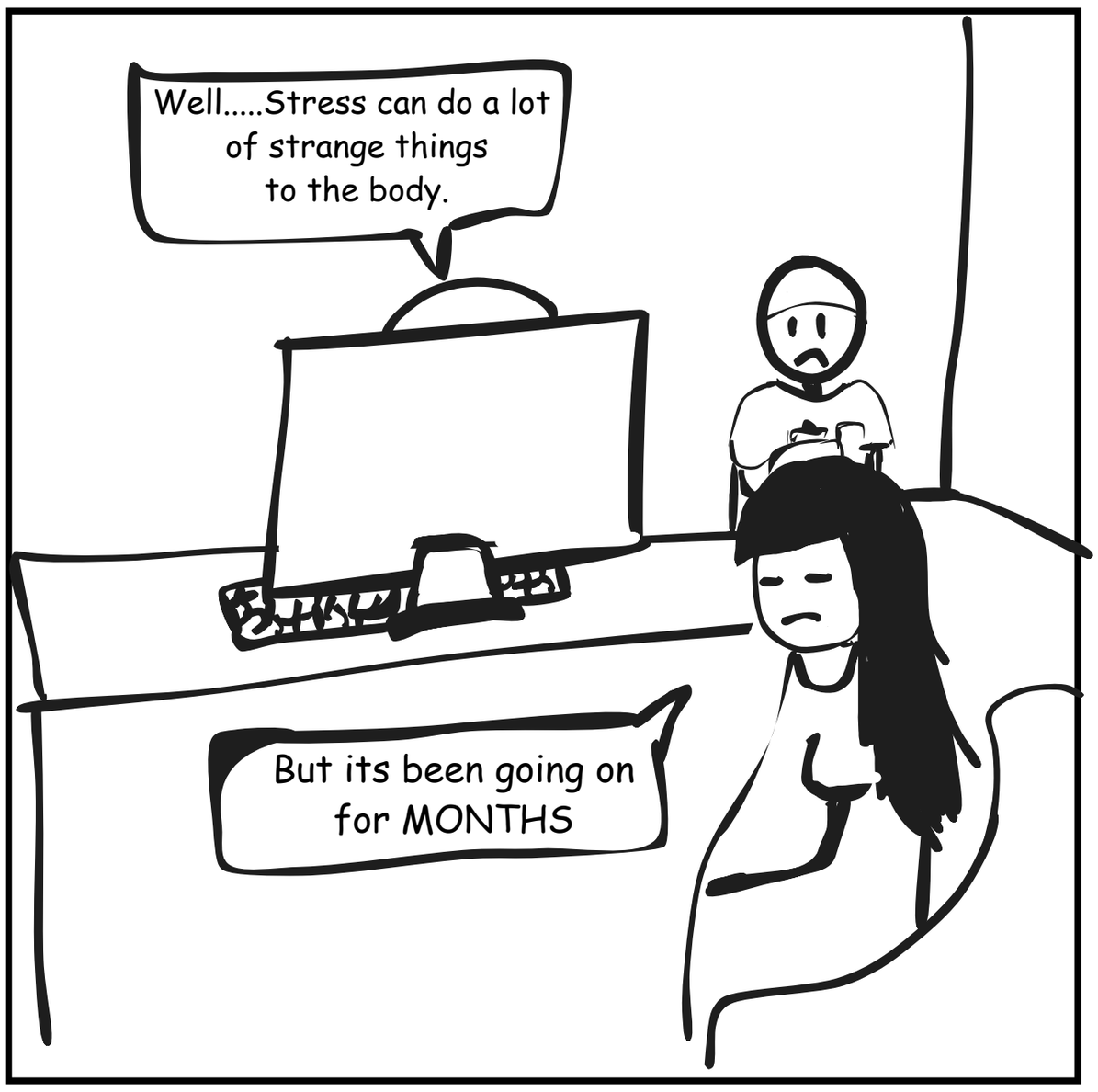
A Matter of

MEDICAL MISOGYNY

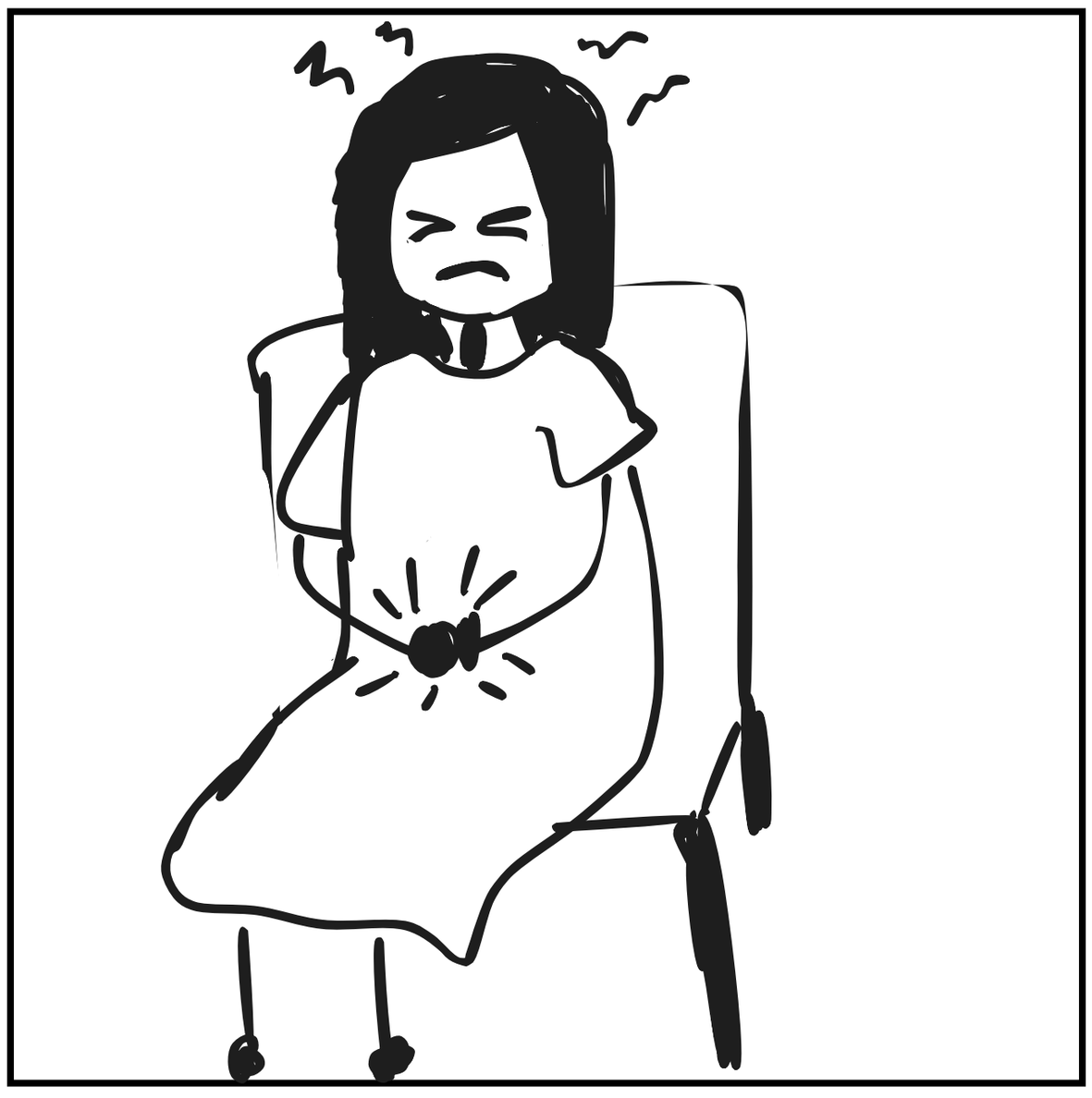
Good morning. I'm Dr Vex. Please have a seat.
Hi! I'm Ms. Fortune Thank you!

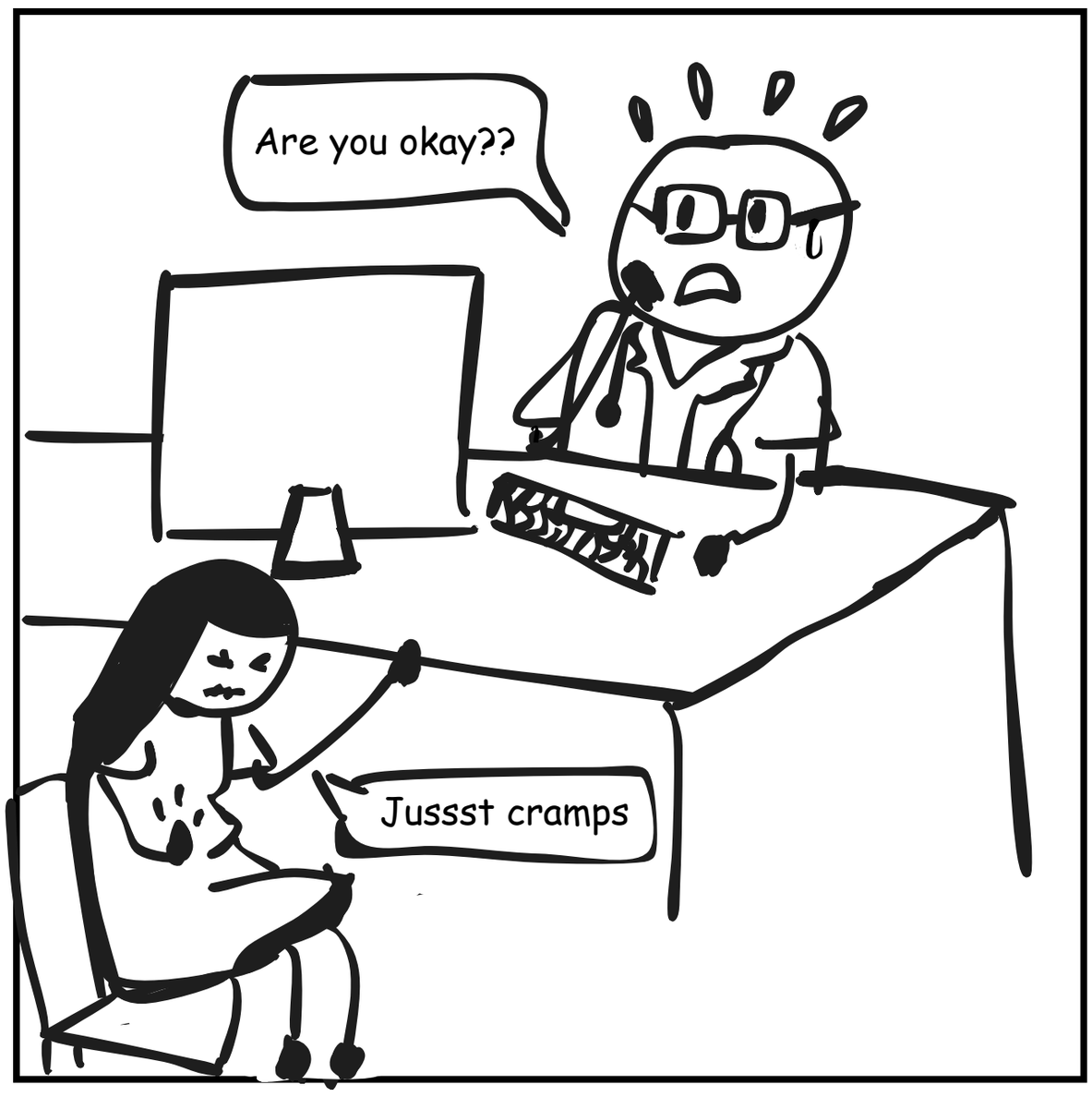

So what brings you in today Ms. Fortune ?
Illll-I've just been feeling really off lately, I just don't know. I've been having these really bad pains.[6] They come and go, but when they hit, it's just hard to focus.

PAIN, okay. Where exactly?
Lower stomach. Sometimes.. my back too. And I've been feeling nauseous a lot.[6]


Well.....Stress can do a lot of strange things to the body.
But its been going on for MONTHS

How long exactly?
It's been 5 months and that was around when.. my periods started to get irregular.[6]



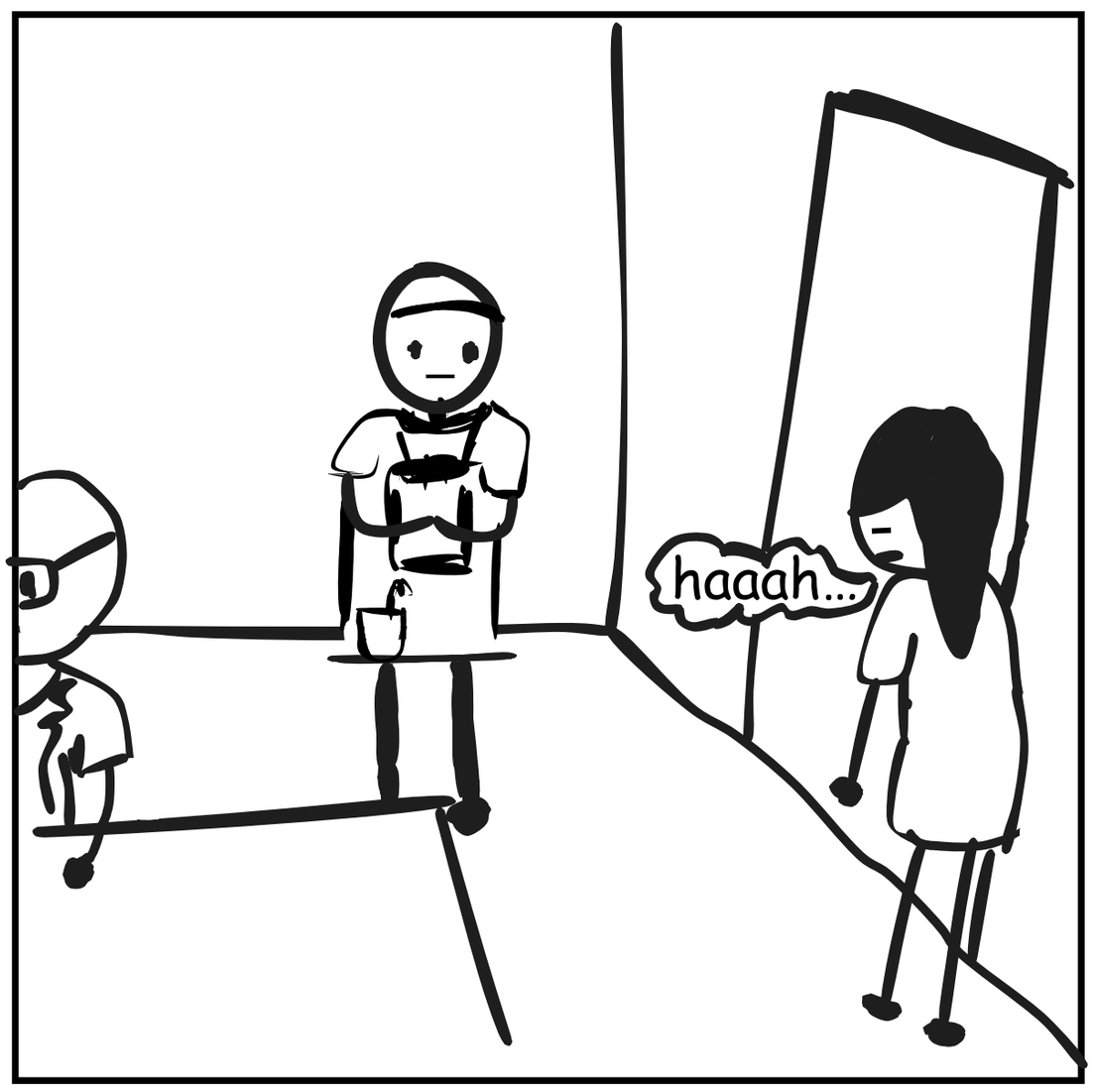

Are you okay??
Jussst cramps

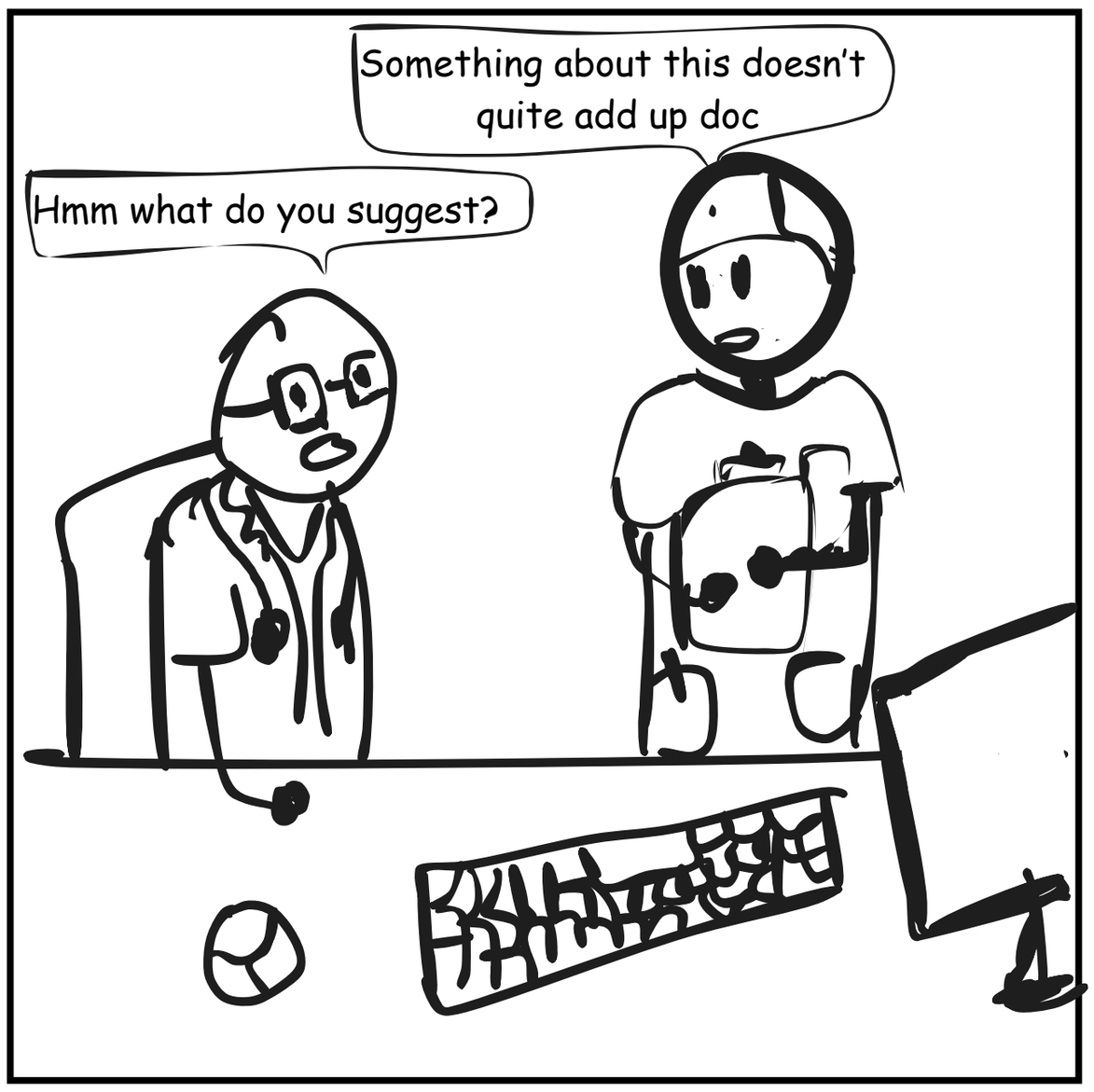
Can you may be give me some more details?
Like what you've been through or what's going on.
Let me think

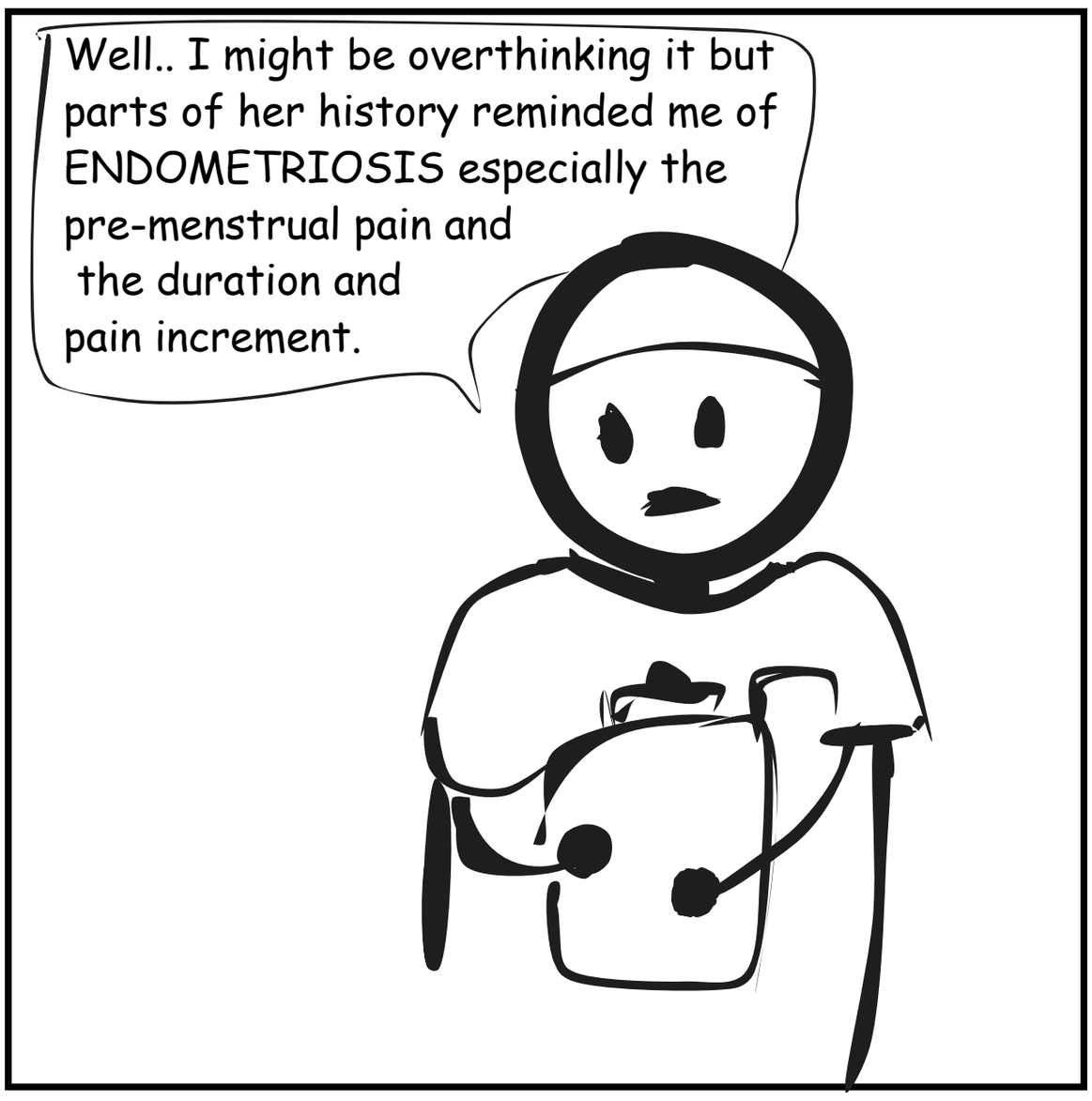
FLASHBACKS
I can't take this much longer! What's been going on with my periods?
Something is WRONG... THIS ISN'T JUST CRAMPS...

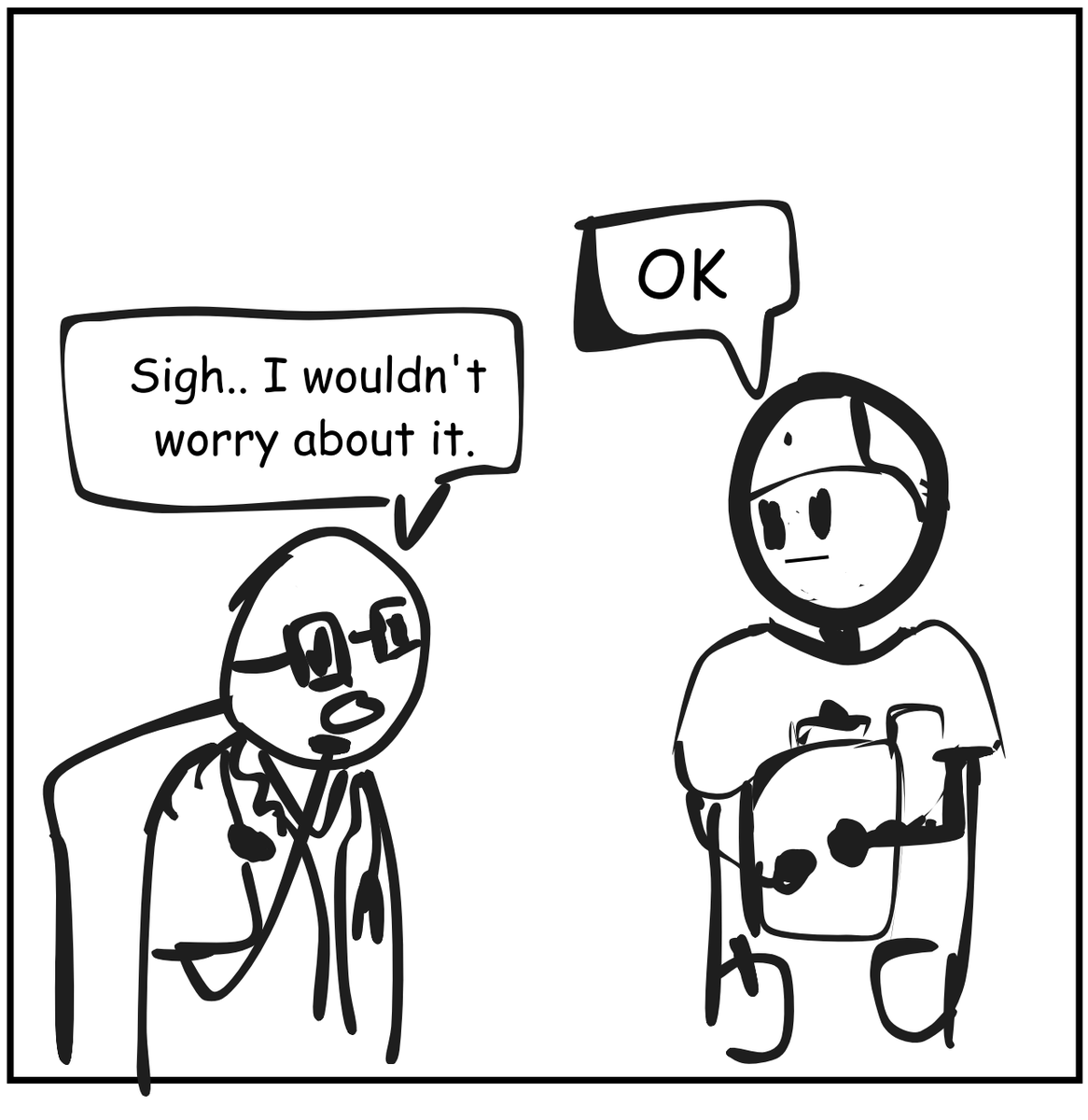
HMM.. So your pain is just around your period?
Yeah buttt these are WORSE than usual.

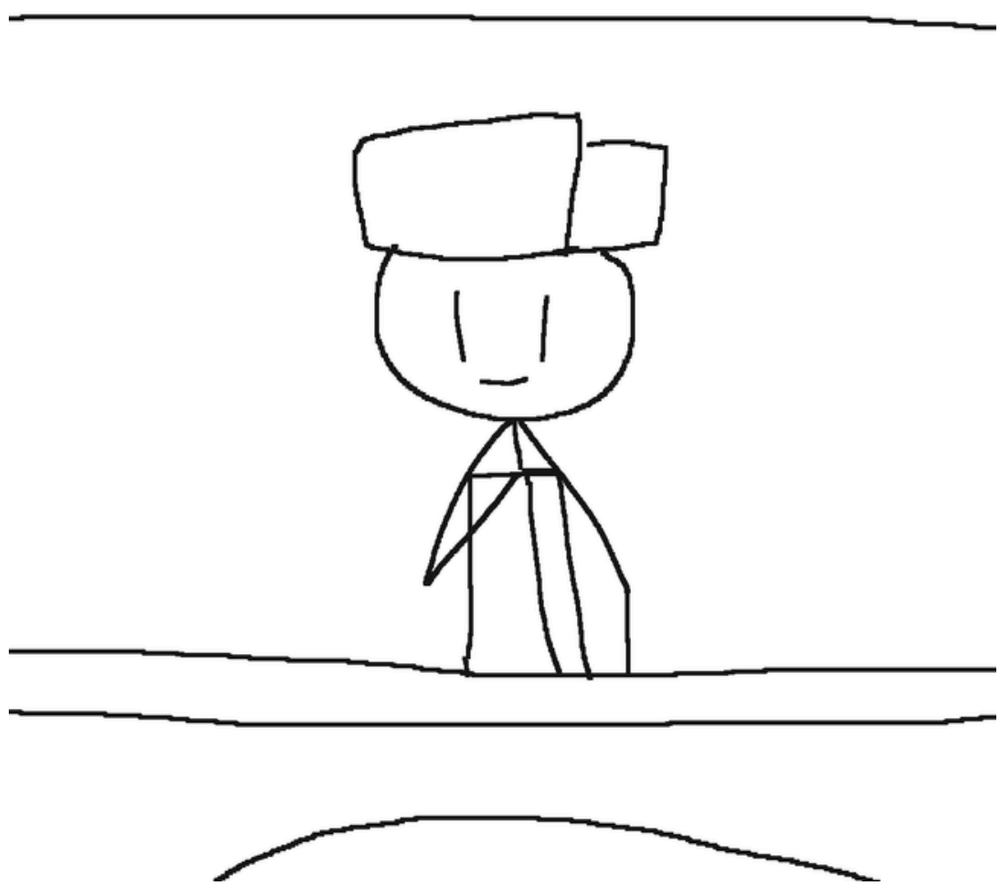
Still sounds like a pretty STANDARD PERIOD. Right now, I'll prescibe some birth control.
Okay...

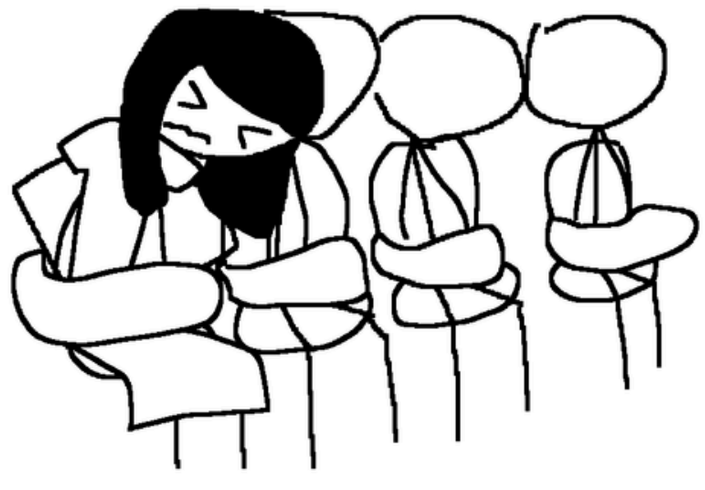

haaah...

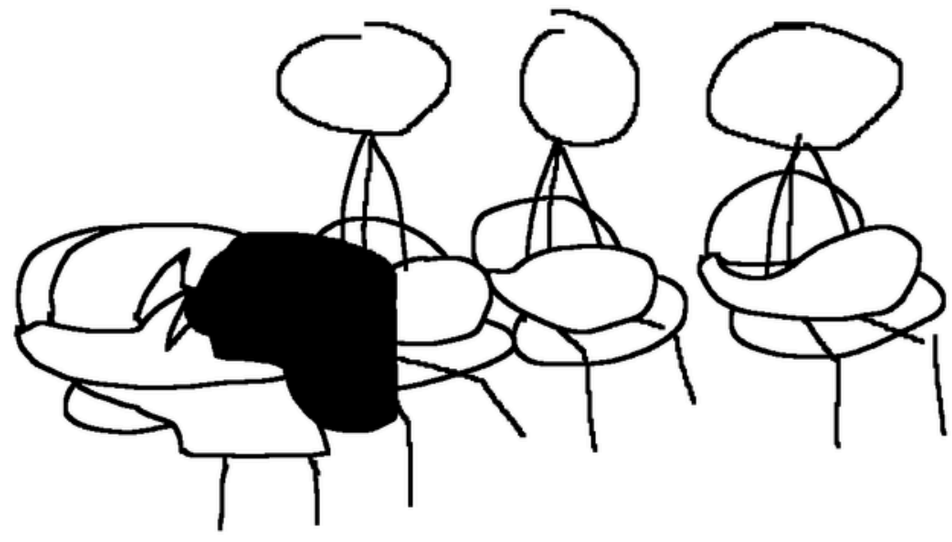

Something about this doesn't quite add up doc
Hmm what do you suggest?

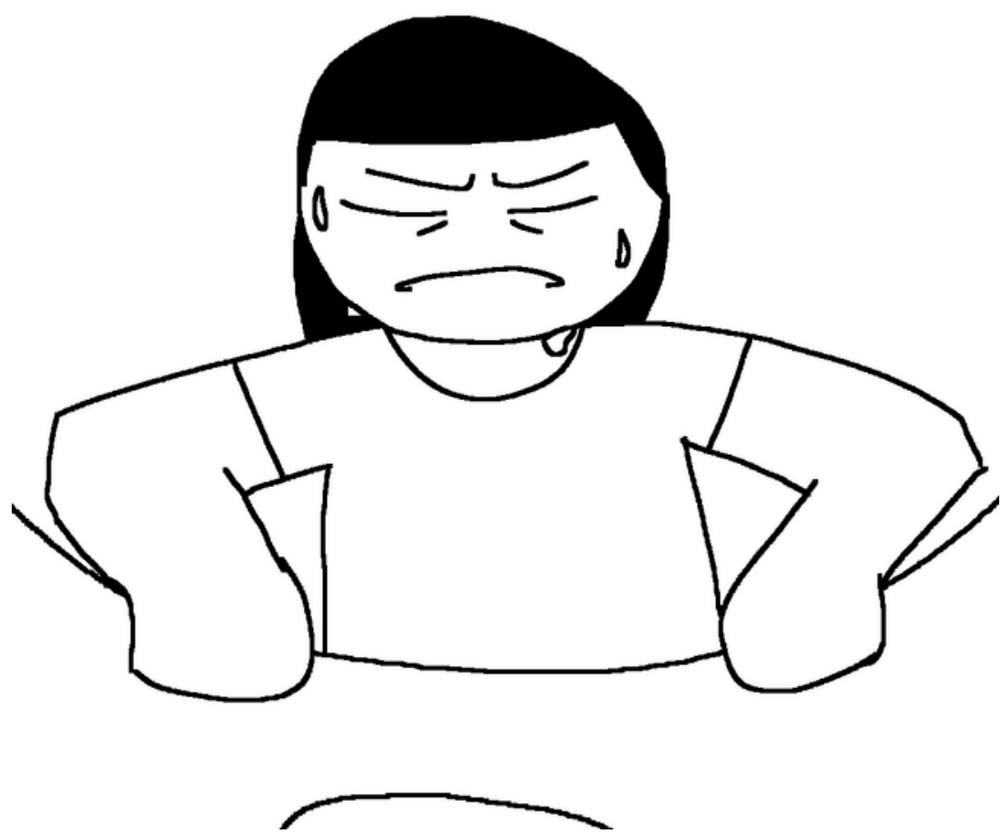

Well.. I might be overthinking it but parts of her history reminded me of ENDOMETRIOSIS especially the pre-menstrual pain and the duration and pain increment.

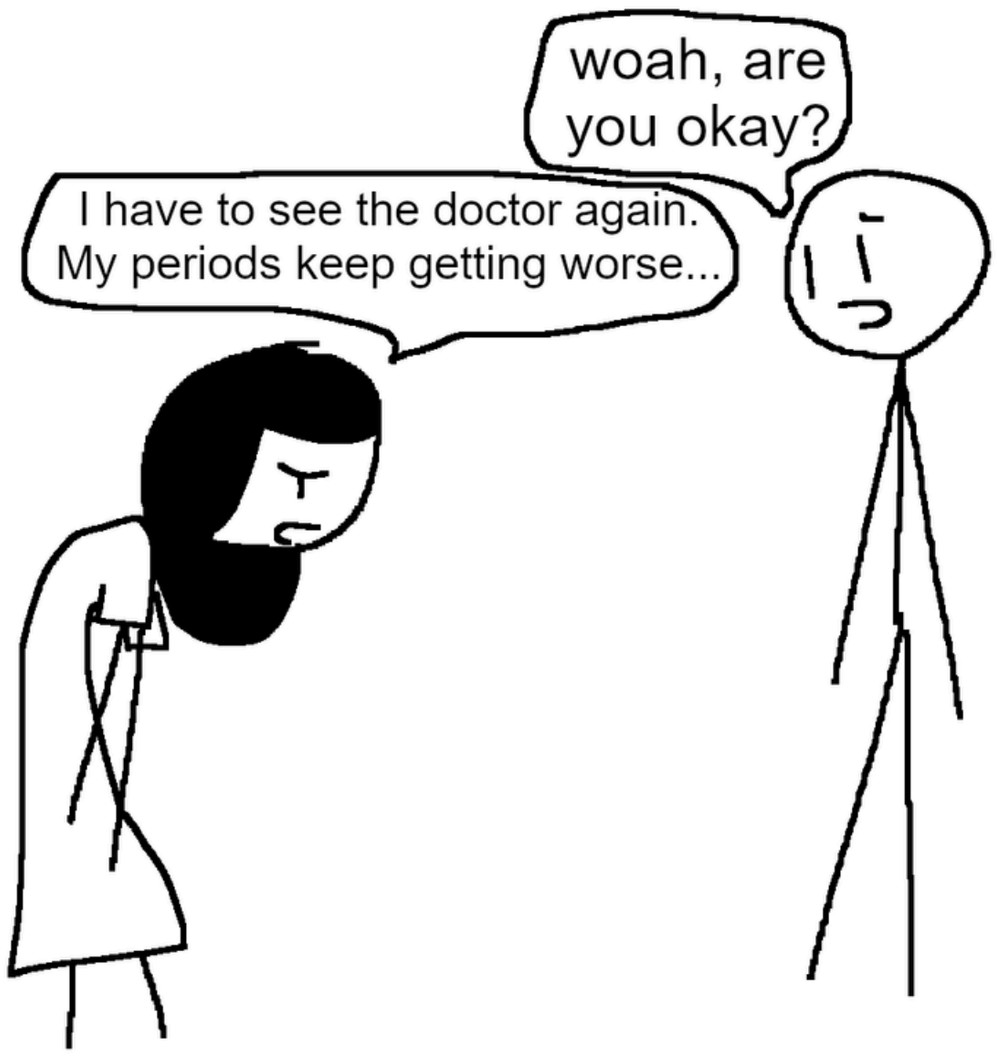

OK
Sigh.. I wouldn't worry about it.









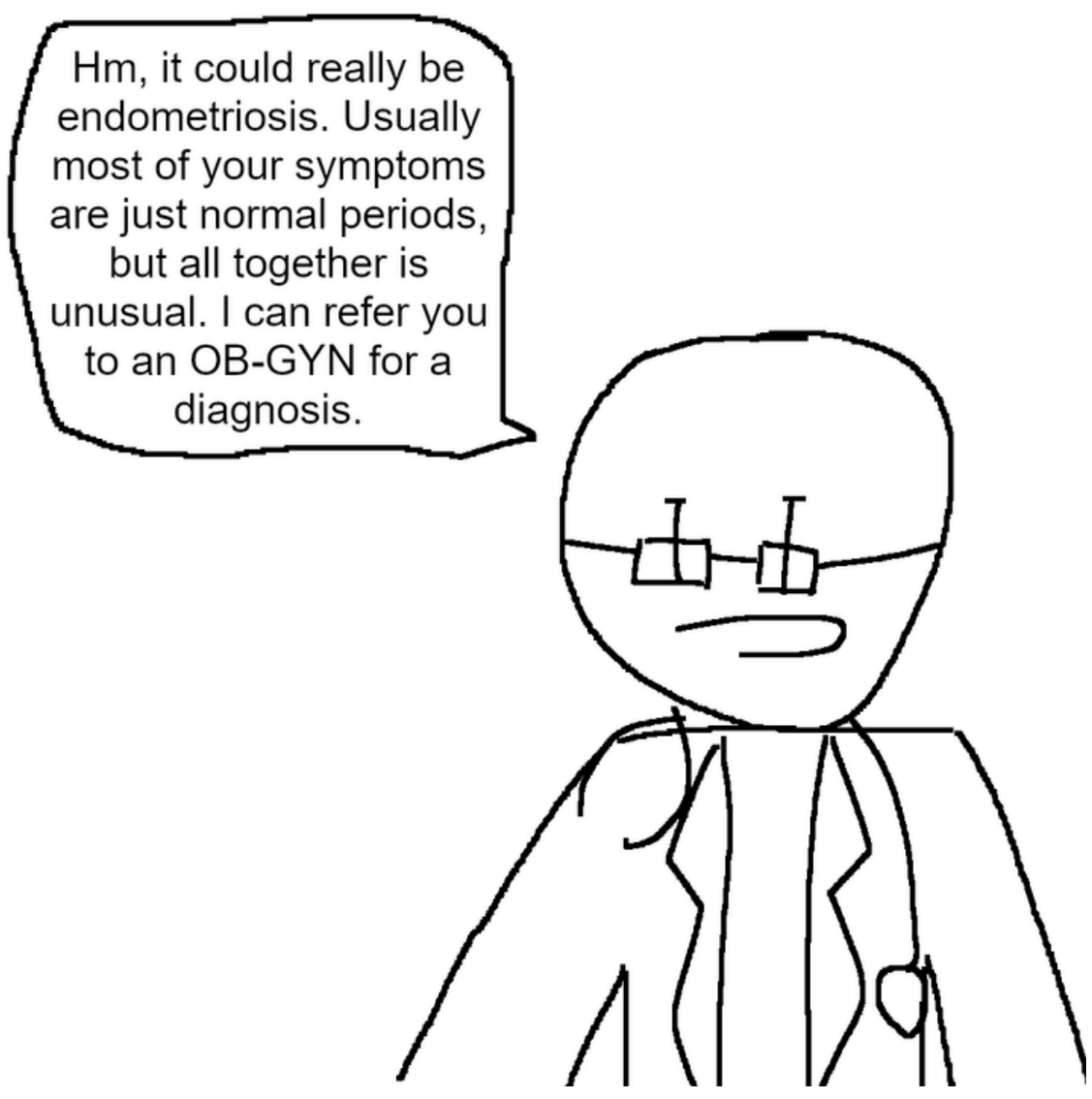

woah, are you okay?
I have to see the doctor again. My periods keep getting worse...

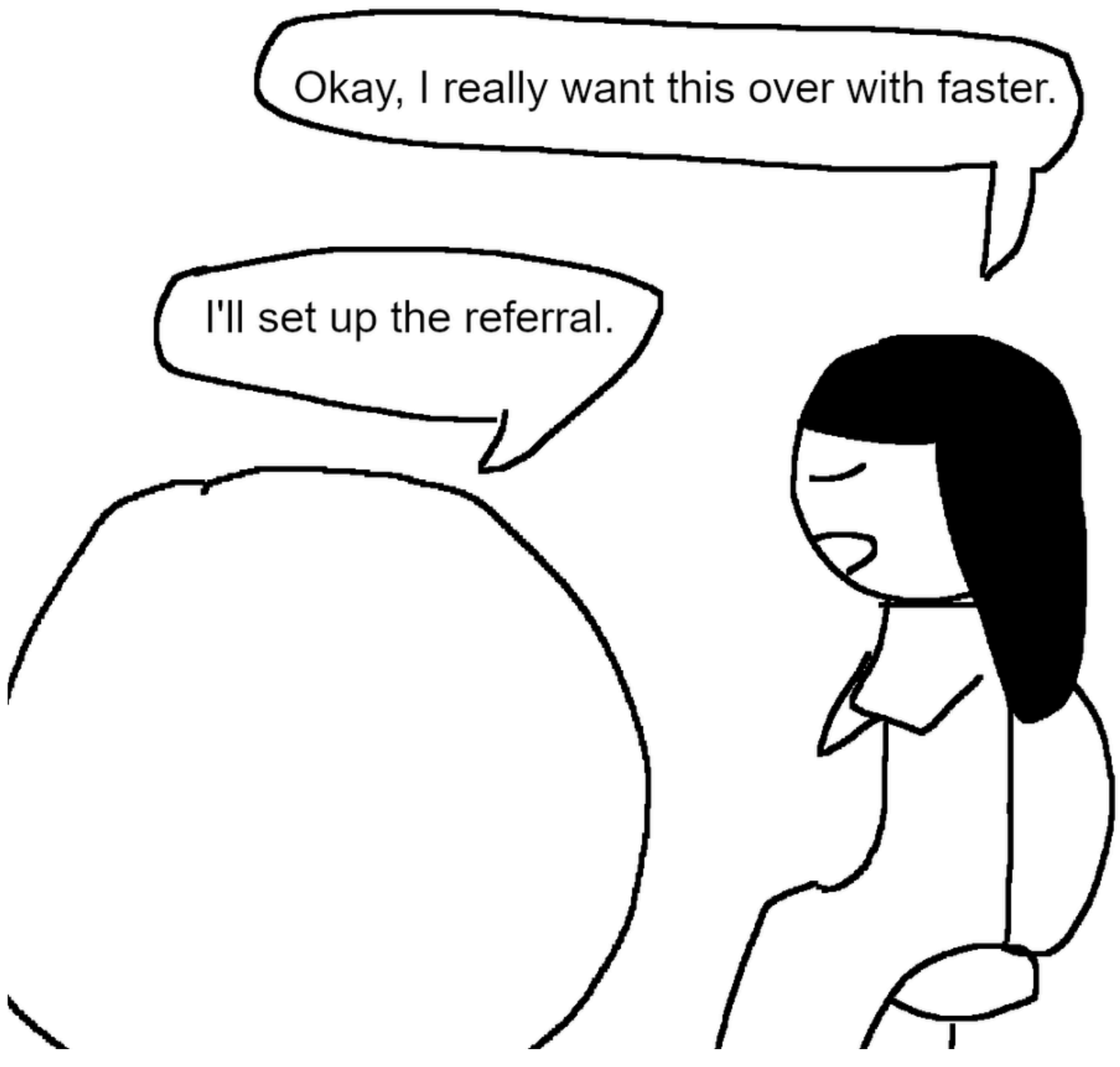
I'm sorry you're going through this, but periods can still be painful even with birth control. Heavier, darker bleeding can sometimes happen while your body adjusts. Let's give it a bit more time.

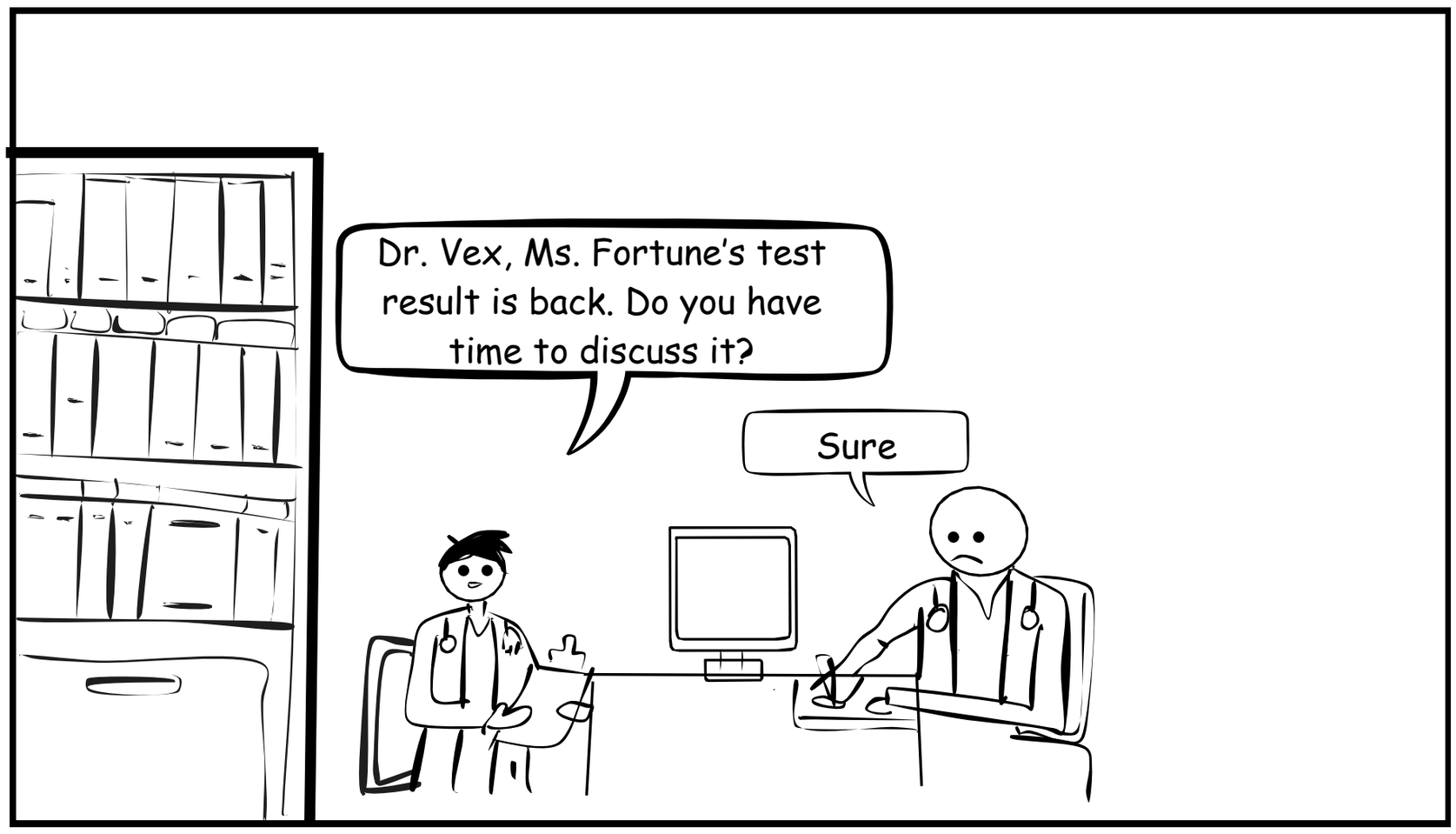
But it's not doing anything! I looked it up, Just put me in for a surgery! I don't even want kids! I am telling you what I have been taking has not been working. I cannot live a normal life like this. Don't you understand it is significantly impacting my quality of life!

I can't
Doctor, I remember her. I think we should still consider endometriosis,

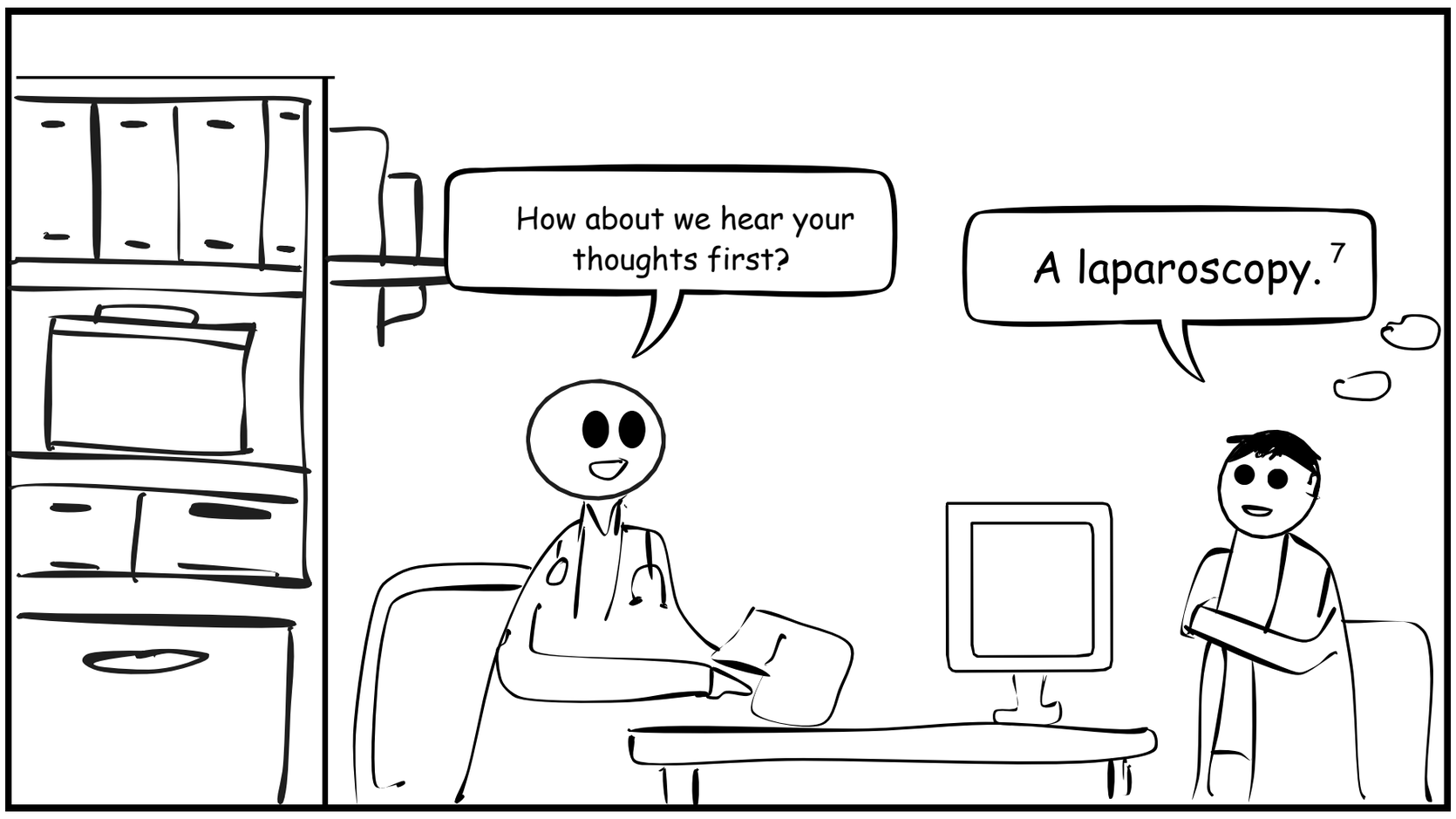
especially since she isn't responding to the hormones as expected

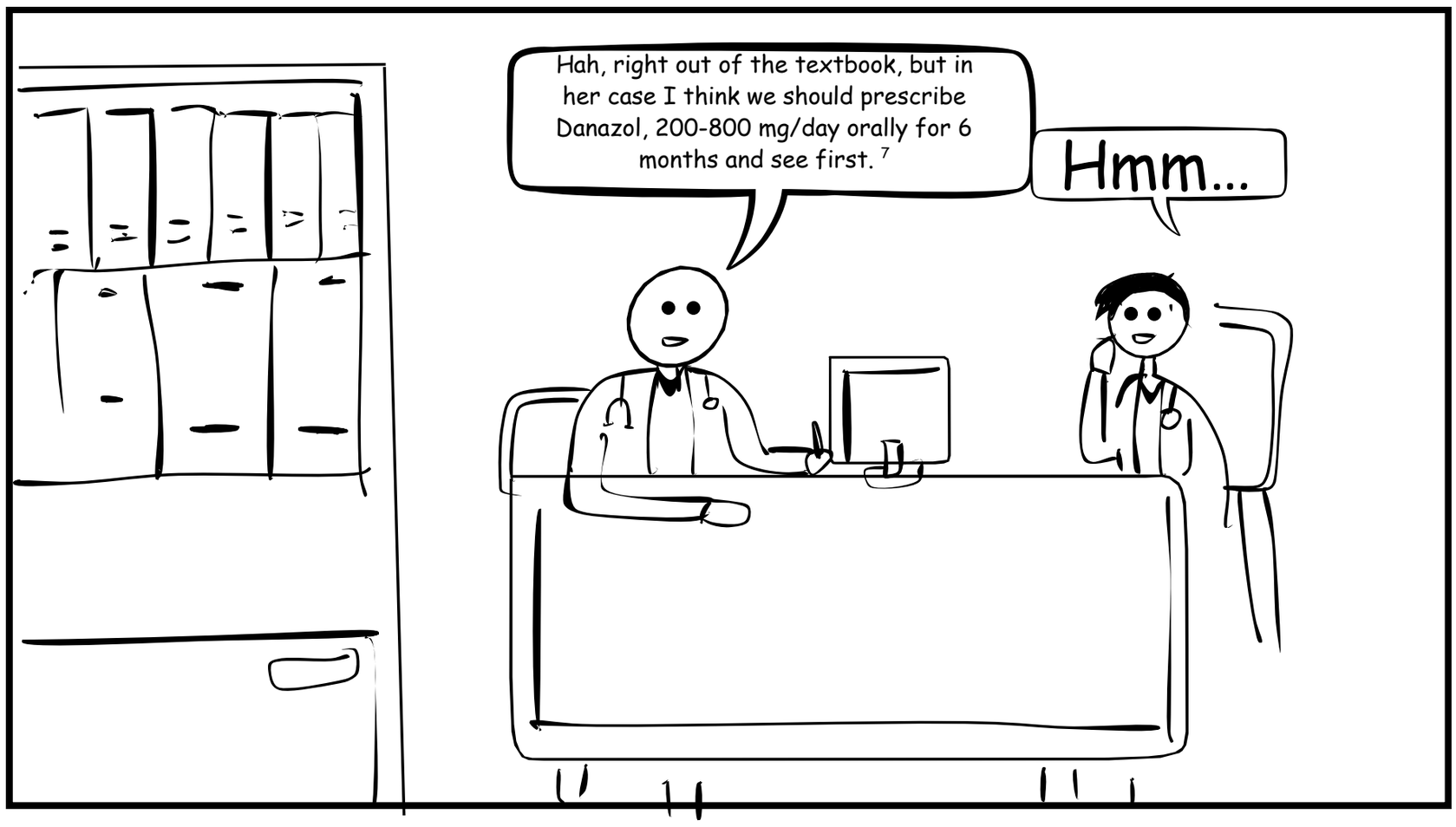

Hm, it could really be endometriosis. Usually most of your symptoms are just normal periods, but all together is unusual. I can refer you to an OB-GYN for a diagnosis.

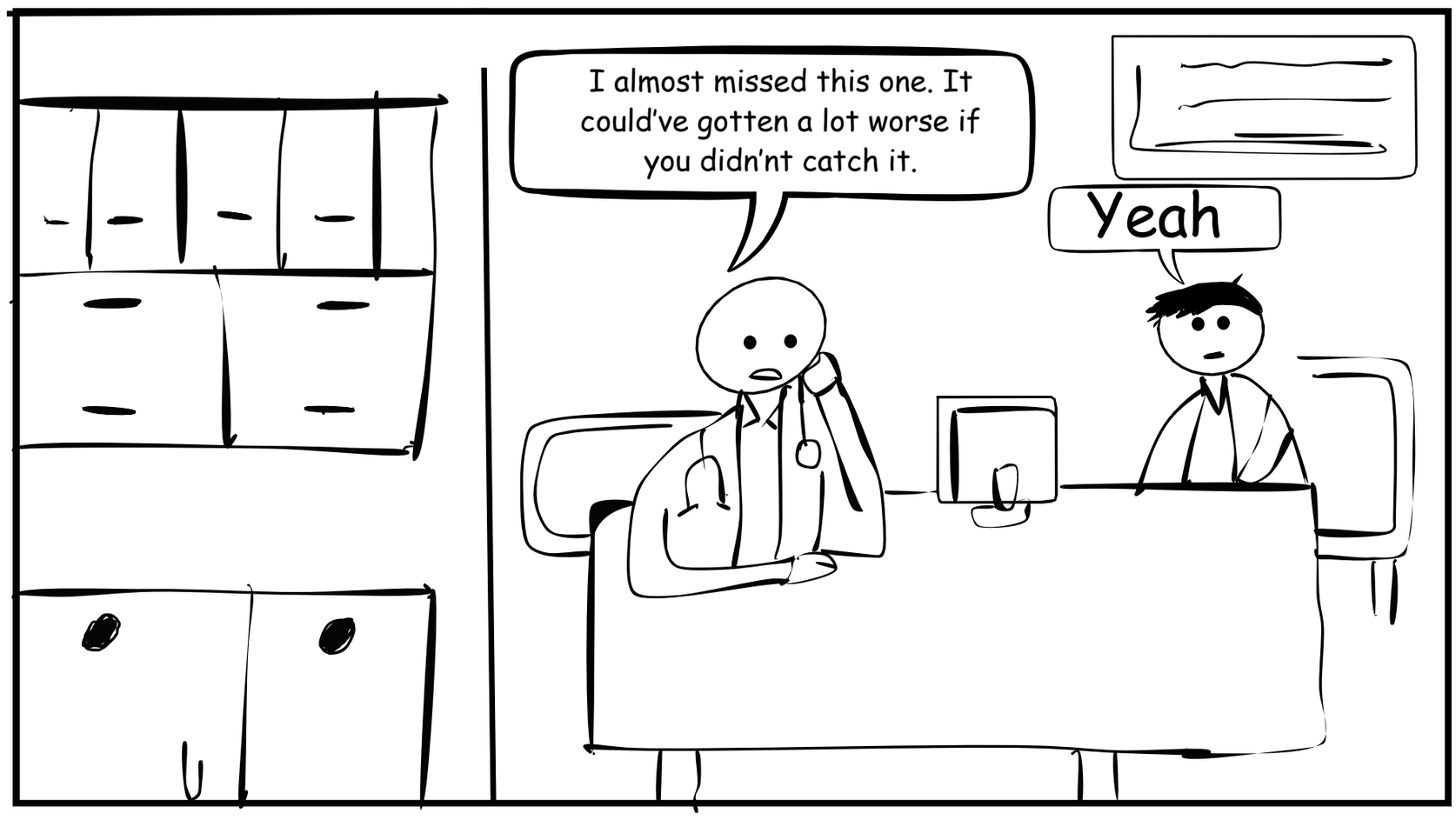

Okay, I really want this over with faster.
I'll set up the referral.


Dr. Vex, Ms. Fortune's test result is back. Do you have time to discuss it?
Sure

Wow, the test results do point to endometriosis. With high certainty too.
What now?

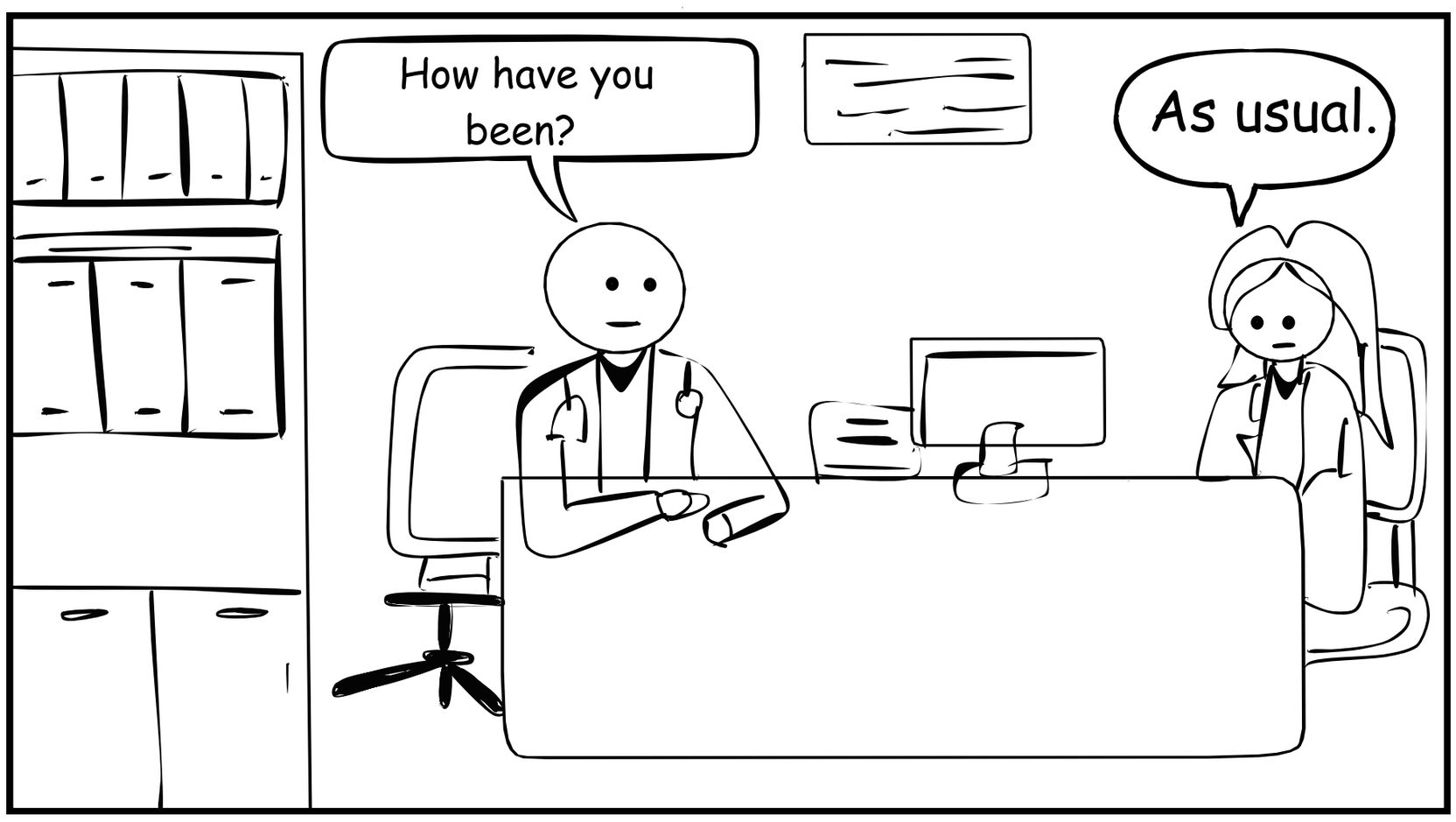

How about we hear your thoughts first?
A laparoscopy.7

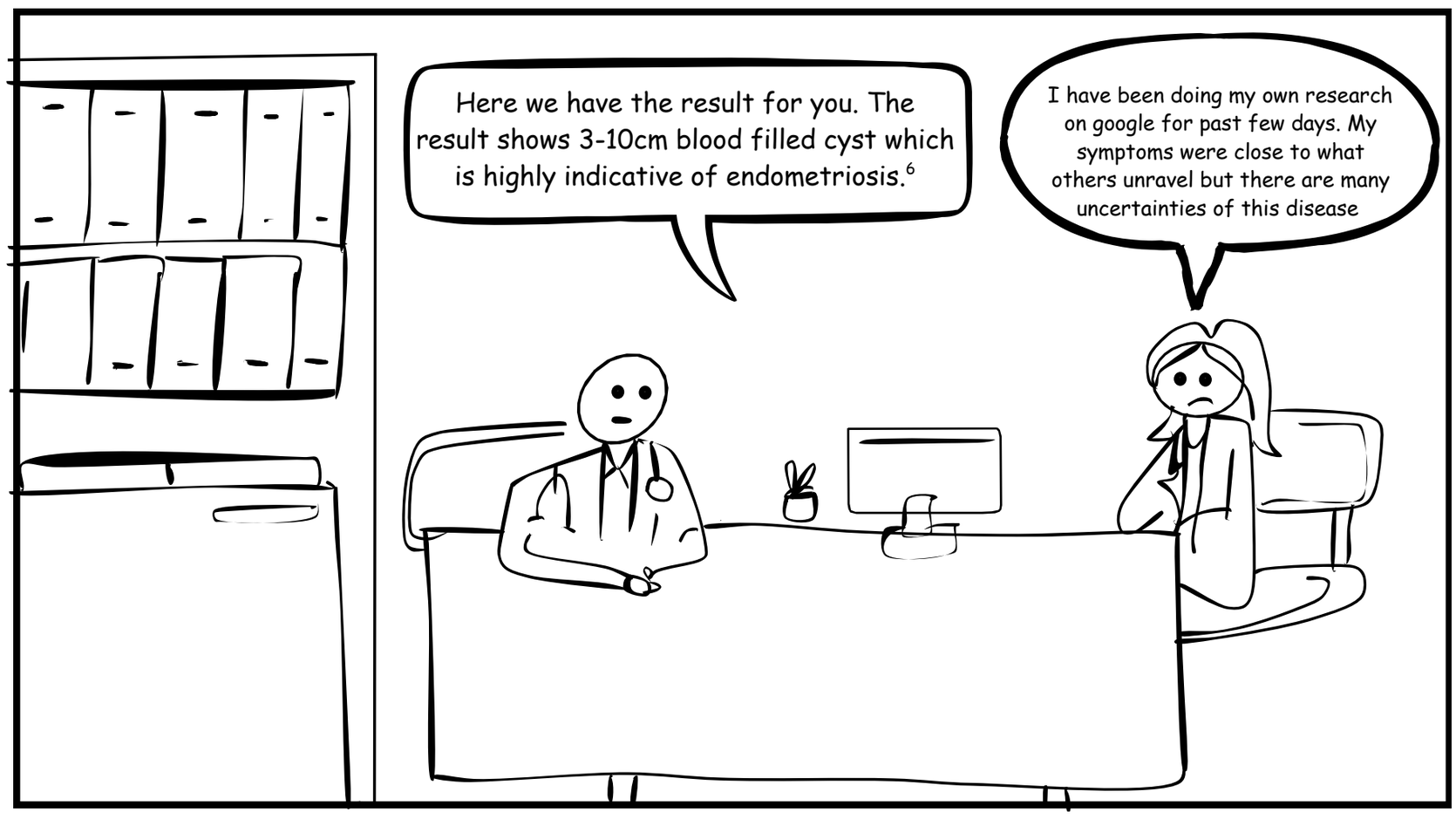

Hah, right out of the textbook, but in her case I think we should prescribe Danazol, 200-800 mg/day orally for 6 months and see first. [7]
Hmm...

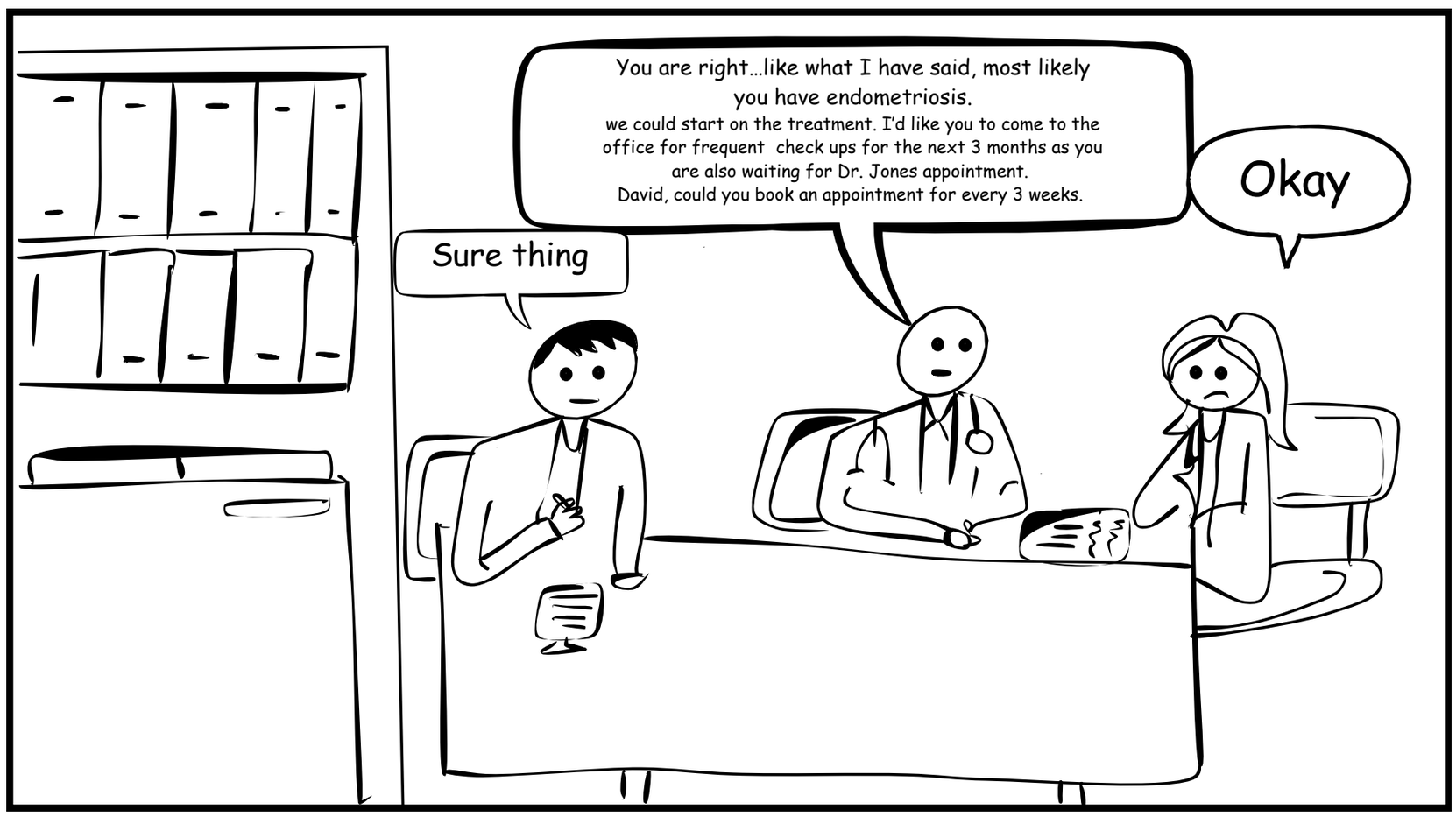

I almost missed this one. It could've gotten a lot worse if you didn'nt catch it.
Yeah

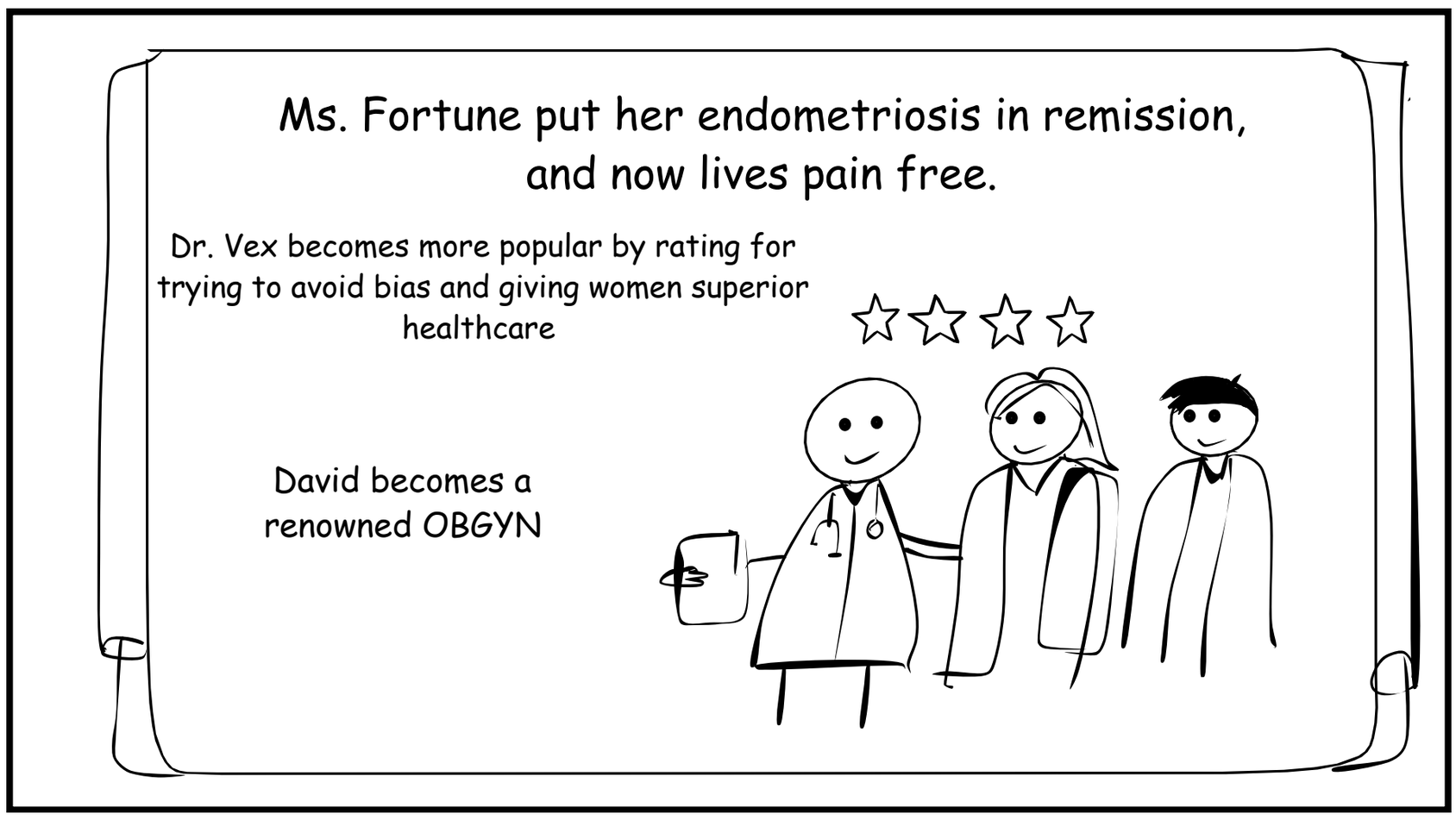
Really makes me wonder how many other women with endometriosis get misdiagnosed
It's pretty new to the curriculum but we've started learning about how women tend to get worse healthcare because of biases from professionals and in research.[8]

Yeah. I really need to be more careful in the future.


How have you been?
As usual.


Here we have the result for you. The result shows 3-10cm blood filled cyst which is highly indicative of endometriosis.[6]
I have been doing my own research on google for past few days. My symptoms were close to what others unravel but there are many uncertainties of this disease


You are right…like what I have said, most likely you have endometriosis.
we could start on the treatment. I'd like you to come to the office for frequent check ups for the next 3 months as you are also waiting for Dr. Jones appointment.
David, could you book an appointment for every 3 weeks.
Okay
Sure thing


Ms. Fortune put her endometriosis in remission, and now lives pain free.
Dr. Vex becomes more popular by rating for trying to avoid bias and giving women superior healthcare
David becomes a renowned OBGYN