The vast majority of candidates will understand that it is not acceptable to write a prescription on this occasion. The distinction being between those attempting to object on medical grounds, and those objecting due to GMC guidelines which state as follows:

‘Wherever possible you must avoid prescribing for yourself or anyone with whom you have a close personal relationship. We expect our registrants to follow our guidance, if you decide to act contrary to the guidance you should be prepared to justify your decision to do so.’

**GMC: Good practice in prescribing and managing medicines and devices (2013)**

Excellent candidates will advise Michelle to arrange for her son to see the GP, as well as exploring the social circumstances which have meant that Jonathan has not been able to see the GP already. Addressing these may involve, exploring ways in which Michelle may be able to access additional support, as well as being able to obtain time off work to meet her son’s and own personal health and welfare needs. Additionally, an exploration of the apparent inappropriate actions of one of the other doctors, as well as a plan to investigate this further is also appropriate.