

THE INTERVIEW

The Interview

What We're Looking For

1. Communication skills
2. Interpersonal skills
3. Maturity
4. Your understanding of a career in medicine
5. Ability to think "on your feet"

Communication Skills

1. Active listening-understanding others
2. Eye contact
3. Clarity without verbosity
4. Making yourself understood

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How to Improve Communication Skills

1. Toastmasters
 - <http://www.toastmasters.org/>
2. *How to Win Friends and Influence People*
 - Dale Carnegie 1936
3. Practice talking to someone you don't know
 - Active listening
 - Feedback

Interpersonal Skills

1. Empathy
 - Put yourself in another's place
 - Respect other's wishes
2. Integrity
 - Consistency
3. Non-judgmental
 - Allow for different values

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Understanding a Medical Career

1. Types of practice
 - Solo, group, academic, specialty
2. Health care issues: local, regional, national
 - Specific health problems
 - Mal-distribution of resources
 - Delivery
 - Access
 - Costs
3. Role of physician in community

Learning About Health Care Issues

1. Shadow
2. Pre-health organizations
3. Public Media
 - www.npr.org
 - www.msnbc.msn.com
 - www.nytimes.com
4. AAMC
 - www.aamc.org
5. AMA
 - www.ama-assn.org
6. Journals
 - www.nejm.org
 - pubs.ama-assn.org
 - www.annals.org

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Thinking “On Your Feet”

1. The problem
 - Case scenarios
 - Role play
 - Ethical issue
2. Examples
 - Patient autonomy
 - Rights of adolescent patients
 - End of life issues
 - Clinical trials
 - Decisions around scarce resources

What We’re Looking For

1. Process is more important than “answer”
 - Think out loud
2. Ability to gather information
3. Ability to generate alternative solutions
4. Solutions supported by information
 - Information includes wishes of patient/family
5. Willingness to change solution if needed

THE INTERVIEW

How to Improve

1. Practice with others
2. Think about issues ahead of time
3. Resources
 - <http://www.criticalthinking.org/>
 - <http://depts.washington.edu/bioethx/topics/index.html>
4. Take a problem solving approach to everyday decisions
 - buying a car
 - renting an apartment
 - which medical schools to apply to.

Sample Scenario

I am a 16 year old female who wants birth control pills and I don't want you to tell my parents



- You ought to be ashamed of yourself
- I'm going to tell your parents
- Aren't you a little young?
- Ok, sure



- Are you sexually active?
- What types of birth control have you considered?
- I gather that you don't want to get pregnant.
What's your understanding of health problems you can have from sexual intercourse?
- I'm sure your parents care about you.
- Why do you not want your parents to know?
- Can we come to some agreement around ...
