

Principal: Entrustable Professional Activity - Delivering News to a Patient – End of life Prognostic Discussion

This activity involves the Trainee leading a discussion with a patient with a serious, life threatening condition. The discussion may involve a decision about operative vs palliative treatment, about symptom control, end-of-life planning or prognosis (of aspects of several of these). May involve an individual patient or may be as part of a family meeting.

Competence	Indicative behaviours	Indicative questions
Medical Expertise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has an adequate understanding of the condition being explained and the options available? • Knowledgeable enough to answer appropriate questions • Understands disease course and prognosis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is knowledge great enough to deliver results succinctly? • Can questions be answered accurately? • Is knowledge great enough to help the patient weigh up options that might be available?
Judgement and Clinical Decision-Making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chooses correct time/situation to deliver results • Accurately judges the amount of information given • Accurately judges how much detail to give • Shows wisdom and realism in helping the patient come to decision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is information given in appropriate circumstances? • Is the information tailored to the individual patient's situation? • Is the Trainee realistic about what various interventions might achieve?
Professionalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is honest when delivering results • Doesn't deliberately withhold information without good reason • Awareness of any cultural considerations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is information withheld that should rightfully be given? • Is the patient given false hope about what various interventions might achieve? • Does the Trainee respond appropriately to cultural issues and seeks additional support or resources if required
Health Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genuine interest in helping the patient understand • Considers emotional support that the patient may require 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the Trainee persist in circumstances where the patient has difficulty understanding? • Is extra support sought for the patient to help them cope with bad news?
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chooses appropriate tone and use of language • Is clear and precise, pausing when appropriate to allow assimilation • Checks understanding, asks for questions • Considers use of written or other information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the language used and pace suit the individual patient? • Is the language clear and devoid of too much jargon? • Does the Trainee detect when understanding is poor? • Is non-verbal communication used appropriately? • Is news delivered at an appropriate pace ie not "dumped" on patient all at once?
Collaboration and Teamwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involves other professionals to help understanding eg nurse specialists, allied health staff where appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are others considered that may be able to contribute to helping the patient understand? eg. family conference

FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY