



# Interviewing/Shadowing a Team Member

## Description:

Through interviewing and shadowing, you (student) will have the opportunity to learn about, from and with other team members such as patients/clients, family members or other health care professionals.

## Learning Objectives:

- Describe own role, responsibilities, values and scope of practice effectively to a patient/client and how other professions are involved in patient/client/family care
- Establish an effective working relationship with patient/client
- Based on patient/client/family needs, consider that preferred practice is interprofessional collaboration
- Be prepared to explain the concept of a team
- Perform as an effective team member by:
  - Sharing information effectively
  - Listening attentively
  - Using understandable communications
  - Reflecting on own learning needs in relation to team function
  - Responding to feedback from others

## Structure:

Suggested time to complete this activity is 4 hours total with at least two team members in different roles (e.g. pharmacist, nurse, patient/client). The interviewing/shadowing may be completed individually or on a group basis (e.g. 3 students could interview and shadow an occupational therapist at the same time if appropriate).

## Things to consider before you begin:

- Ensure that confidentiality and consent are addressed.
- The questions are a suggested guide and may be modified.
- The order and timing of the activity can be adapted (e.g. shadow first & interview second; interview 1 hour & shadow 3 hours).
- Review the learning objectives, interview questions and reflection questions; modify as appropriate. Discuss this with your supervisor and any potential challenges that you see.
- You may wish to conduct additional research on the professions you will be observing (e.g. review the professional association websites) or the patient/client (e.g. review chart).

### How do you select the team members?

- List all of the members on this team and reflect on your knowledge about their roles.
- Discuss this list with your supervisor and together select at least 2 team members to interview and shadow.
- You may want to select the 2 that you know the least about or one you know the least and one with whom you will collaborate regularly.
- The clinical supervisor/student should explain the purpose of the activity to the team members and obtain consent. The supervisor must obtain consent from the patient/client.
- Interviewing/shadowing a patient/client can be a very rewarding and interesting experience as it will enable you to learn about their collaboration from their perspective.

### Interviewing Experience (suggest 1 hour per team member)

#### Suggested questions – Health Care Professionals

##### A) Learning about you and your role:

1. How did you decide to enter your profession?
2. How would you describe your scope of practice and is this a typical role for your profession? On this team, what does your assessment and intervention usually involve?
3. What are the biggest challenges in enacting your role?
4. I would like to practice explaining my role (student's professional role) to other team members. Please provide me with feedback on the following description of my role...
5. I am also learning how to describe other team members' roles. Knowing what I know now, here is how I would describe your role. What feedback do you have for my description of your role?

##### B) Learning about collaboration on this team:

1. How and when do you assess, plan and provide intervention collaboratively with others on this team? (e.g. in what types of situations).
2. Who do you collaborate with most closely on this team? Why? Can you provide a specific example/patient/client story to illustrate?
3. How do you in your professional role interact with mine on this team? What goals might we share?
4. How do you contribute to effective decision making on this team?
5. How do you work to establish and maintain relationships on this team?

#### Suggested questions – Patients/Family Members

##### A) Learning about you:

1. What brought you to this team?
2. What difficulties and changes have you noticed in yourself recently?
3. What strengths/resources do you use that help you?
4. What are your hopes and plans for the future?
5. Is there anything else you would like me to know about you?

## **B) Learning about collaboration on this team:**

1. Please tell me about your involvement with this team. Who do you consider a part of your team here and outside of here? How would you describe your role as part of the team?
2. I am a student in \_\_\_\_\_ (profession). Have you met an individual from my profession previously? What would you like to know about my profession?
3. Who on the team do you work with most closely? Can you provide a specific example?
4. How would you describe the teamwork here? (e.g. does the work seem coordinated? Do the team members seem to be communicating with each other?)

## **Shadowing Experience (suggest 1 hour per team member)**

Shadow health care professionals interacting with patients/clients/family members. For patient/client shadows, shadow the patient/client as he/she interacts with other team members.

1. How did the professional interact with the patient/client/family member?
2. How did the actual shadowing compare with your expectations and assumptions?

## **Reflection:**

After completing this activity, consider the questions below in a written reflection (1 page suggested).

1. What did you learn about the roles on this team that you did not know previously?
2. What are the similarities and differences between the roles (including yours)?
3. What else do you want to learn about the team and its members? What new learning objectives have now emerged for you?
4. How was the patient's voice/goals expressed?
5. How will this experience influence your role as a professional and team member?

## **Debrief**

### **Clinical supervisor instructions:**

Ensure that the students discuss their reflections, either with you, another health care provider, and/or the clinical IPE leader in the organisation.

Consider what surprised you in reviewing the reflections, what resonated with you and how can you continue to guide and support this student's reflections and interprofessional education.

\*\*\* Please note that a Supervisor/Staff IPE Tip Sheet is available.

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