

HOW IT WORKS

Answer each question on some aspect of your work experience, then pull your answers together into a paragraph of up to 1000 characters for your personal statement.

Medicine

Think of any interesting cases (diseases/conditions/treatments) you came across during your work experience placement(s) in whatever setting that was.

- These do not have to be dramatic situations.
- Very common conditions can provide excellent material.
- Look through the questions below to get a sense of how you will be analysing your chosen case study.
- Use this to help you select one case study to analyse.
- Prioritise examples where you were able to find out some key details about the patient and you witnessed interaction with a carer/medical professional.



Questions

- **What did you notice originally about the patient/condition and how it was dealt with?**
- **Why did this grab your attention?/ What did you already know in general about this condition/issue?**
- **What did you learn about the background to this specific case? Did you ask any questions or pick any details up about the patient or this condition?**
- **What can you find out about the scientific background to this disease/condition/treatment?**

Use one of the following sources:

- The NHS database of medical conditions and treatments aimed at the general public: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/>
- A database of medical information and articles for both patients and health professionals: <https://patient.info/>

Medicine

Topic of Interest Questions

- **In what ways could clinical communication be important in relation to this issue?**

Clinical communication is all about how doctors interact with patients and other professionals and is an essential element of good medical practice.

- **What has this case study taught you about the specific role of any of these key skills and values within medical practice?**

Review the key skills and values below:

Academic skills

1. Applying scientific knowledge
2. Pursuing new knowledge
3. Forming conclusions
4. Reasoned judgement
5. Evaluating and prioritising

Interpersonal skills

1. Communicating with others
2. Leadership and serving as a role model
3. Teamwork

Values

1. Ethical awareness
2. Honesty and integrity
3. Social engagement



Optional Questions

Answer one of these;

- **Did this case raise any ethical issues? What were these, how were they dealt with and how does this relate to official guidelines?**
- **Does this issue intersect with any wider social/medical trends?**

Use your own knowledge and the following sources to answer this question:

- The BBC health news page: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health/>
 - A version of the British Medical Journal aimed specifically at medical students: <http://student.bmj.com/student...>
 - The BMJ's blog covering a vast range of medical topics: <http://blogs.bmj.com/bmj/>
- **How is this issue changing (have recent advances been made, are there any potential research outcomes)?**

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