Priming for Efficient Patient Encounters

Just like priming a pump, taking 1 minute to “PRIME” your learners prior to each patient encounter will improve efficiency and effectiveness of your teaching and patient encounters!

**PRIMING INVOLVES 3 P’S:**
- PREPARE with your learner at start of session;
- PRIME before each patient interaction;
- PLAN next steps.

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**1 PREPARE 3-5 min**

PREPARE with your learner from “Well” of Patient Encounters

Scan Clinic Schedule: Look for urgent/must be addressed patient issues; schedule length; learner friendly patients

Check Learner Needs/Gaps: Rotation/training requirements – learner’s gaps = today’s focus (e.g., chronic disease; prevention; communication)

Rescan Schedule: Match patients with learner needs and clinic flow

**2 PRIME 1 min**

PRIME for EACH patient by telling the learner in < 1 minute:

Who is the Patient: 56 y/o patient; Type 2 DM; Here for 3 month follow up; DM is uncontrolled

What to Do & Time: Assess barriers to control DM; Consider Motivational Interviewing; 10 minutes

Why Do it: Chronic Disease management requires patient commitment & engagement

What You Expect: 2 minute summary of top 2 actionable barriers patient agrees to work on

**3 PLAN 3 min**

PLAN what you and/or learner will do when go back in to see patient following the learner’s 2-minute summary:

Patient Management: Agree on patient plan and timing for patient follow-up visit.

Clarify Roles when Re-enter Patient’s Room
1. PRECEPTOR WILL: Greet Patient; tell patient learner will review H&P, summarize barriers, and key focus area(s)
2. LEARNER WILL: Review H & P & barriers and recommend 1 actionable step (e.g., D/C canned fruit; switch to 1 fresh fruit/day). Rec patient schedule follow-up visit 3 mos

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**RESOURCES:**

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