

The Biopsychosocial Model of Behavior and Illness
History Taking and Communication Skills
Medical Professionalism and the Oath of Hippocrates

Learning Objectives:

1. Compare the biopsychosocial model to the biomedical model of medical care.
2. Cite some examples of how behavioral and psychosocial variables contribute to the development, course, and outcomes of illness.
3. List three functions of the medical interview.
4. Compare the “shared decision-making” physician style (or patient-centered model of medical care) with the “paternalistic” style.
5. Define empathy; list the two things that are necessary to demonstrate empathy in a patient-doctor relationship.
6. List other basic communication skills that should be employed during a patient interview.
7. Understand the Oath of Hippocrates with respect to professional behaviors for medical students and physicians.

Clinical Skills/Competencies:

1. Demonstrate the ability to conduct a patient interview in an empathic and professional manner.
2. Demonstrate *basic* knowledge of how to take a history of present illness and a social history.
3. Utilize effective communication skills

Required Reading (All non-textbook readings included on website):

Coulehan & Block, *The Medical Interview; Chapters 1-4, 7*

The Biopsychosocial Model of Health and Illness

Three Functions of the Medical Interview

General Guidelines for Interviewing Patients

The Oath of Hippocrates

Erickson’s Stages of Life (this will be used throughout the semester)