

Informed Consent Exercise

In this breakout session, you will be asked to obtain informed consent for a variety of procedures. Principles of professional communication will be tested as well as specific issues related to the procedure.

Professional communication essentials: Take your time, introduce yourself, maintain eye contact, and sit down if possible. Allow time for questions. Explain the patient's condition, differential diagnosis, and potential natural history of their condition, treatment options, risks, surgery and risks/benefits. General risks of any surgery such as anesthesia, bleeding and infection, followed by specific risks of the procedure should be covered. Expectations of the length of the procedure, post-operative course and recovery are common questions. Always ask if there are any questions

Don't make things up. If you don't know the answer, find out the answer from your senior resident or attending.

The exercise may also cover special circumstances such as legal guardianship, language barriers, pediatrics, refusal of consent, emergency procedures and medical necessity.