

20 April, 2021



A session with Wini Ryan and Prof Peter Gillen

Communication Skills in a Virtual

World



ENABLE DEMONSTRATE www.qualityimprovement.ie

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Welcome

• Sound: Computer or dial ir •

- Telephone no: 01-5260058

Event number: 183 727 706

Chat box function

- Comments/Ideas
- Keep the questions coming!
- Recording

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New feature

- Short feedback form after the session, please help us to improve our QITalktime Webinars
- A window will pop up before logging out











Speakers today



Wini Ryan

Leadership, Learning and Talent Management division of National HR, HSE



Prof Peter Gillen

Associate Professor of Surgery, RCSI Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and the Clinical Advisor to the National Healthcare Communication Programme











Making conversations easier



Virtual consultation or Modern day séance?



"Mary are you there?"

"Make a sound if you can hear me"

"Is anyone else with you?"

"I can't see you...can you hear me?"



QI Talktime outline



- Section 1: National Healthcare Communication Programme
- Section 2: Communication skills
- Section 3: Take-aways
- Section 4: Questions

Programme aim





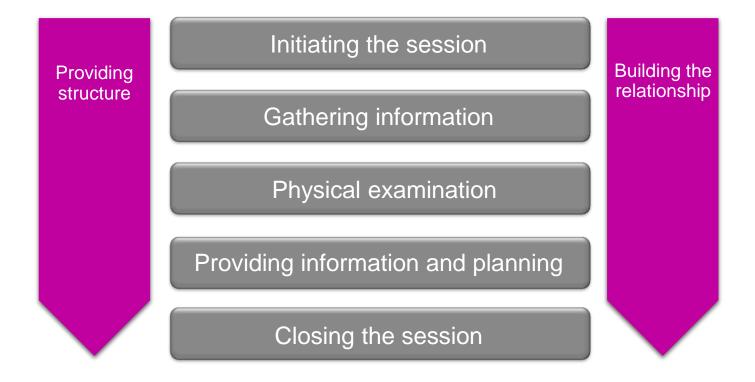
To improve patient experience, clinical outcomes and enhance patient safety by supporting staff to take a skilled, sensitive and patient-centred approach in all conversations with patients and their families.



Calgary-Cambridge Guide



A framework that corresponds directly to the way we structure the consultation in real life







The virtual consultation



Question

Can we do better???

Communicating in a virtual world



- The 'arrival' of telemedicine
- An overnight success story?
- It took a pandemic!
- Telephone and video consultations considered together
- Many similarities but obvious differences also



Advantages



Patient

- No travel time
- Avoid unnecessary trip to hospital/clinic
- Less exposure risk to infection

Clinician

- Outcomes equivalent
- Chronic disease reviews
- Prescription changes



Challenges



PATIENTS

- Technology may pose problems
- Reassurance may be easier by video than by telephone
- Older people may be wary of disclosing symptoms
- Interruptions may be off-putting
- Privacy
- Reluctance to speak if chaperones present on call



Challenges



CLINICIANS

- May not be appropriate in some clinical settings
- Is physical examination required?
- Vulnerable patients
- Patients not known to clinician
- Lack of supporting healthcare records



Challenges



CLINICIANS

- Interruptions more common than face to face
- Talking over one another (2 seconds rule)
- Lack of visual information (telephone)
- Signal latency...particular concern on video calls
- Signal loss…backup plan
- Wellness bias
- Premature decision making



Preparation



- 1. Prepare yourself...H.A.L.T.S.
- 2. Prepare your *information*
- 3. Prepare your *environment*
- Video prepare your set-up
 - ✓ How do I appear on screen?
 - ✓ Am I centered?
 - ✓ Turn off self-view
 - Lighting
 - ✓ Back up plan



CLEAR model (MPS)



Connect
Hello, my name is...

Listen

Uh, huh, yes, ok...

Empathy

Tell me more, what are you most worried about?

- Ask/Tell/Ask
 What do you know about? ...
- Review & check

 I have given you a lot of information...

R

C - Connect



C

- Webside manner
- Golden minute
- Halo effect
- Be aware of your pace
- Tone of voice
- Avoid jargon
- Don't be tempted to multi-task







Active listening skills

- Phone reassure the patient you are listening, e.g. ok, uhhuh, mm, etc.
- Summaries...so what I hear you saying is that headaches are becoming more frequent
- Visual demonstration of listening skills (*leaning*, *nodding*)
- Allowing the patient to talk may tell you what you wish to know without having to ask!

E – Empathy



Ε

- Emotional cues more difficult on phone as no body language to aid with visual cues
- Listen out for hesitation or change in tone
- On the phone empathic statements
 have to be more deliberate and
 explicit...from what I'm hearing that
 must have been really tough



A – Ask, Tell, Ask





Understand the patient's perspective

Ideas

What do you think might be going on?

Concerns

What are you most worried about?...

Expectations

What do you think is the best way forward?...



R

Yes/No

 I've given you a lot of information. Is there anything you don't understand?

Tell back directive

It's important that you do this exactly the way I explained.
 Could you tell me what I've told you?

Tell back collaborative

 I've given you a lot of information. It would be helpful to me to hear your understanding about your condition and its treatment

(Kemp et al, 2008)

So to summarise...



Connect
Golden minute' / Webside manner

Listen

Avoid interrupting (2 second rule) / Prompt the patient...

Empathy

Pick up on emotional cues - this sounds really tough

- Ask/Tell/Ask
 What questions do you have about what I've said so far?
- Review & check
 I've given you a lot of information. It would be helpful to me to hear.....

R







Take aways...





You hit home runs not by chance, but by preparation

ROGER MARIS 1934 - 1985







I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you make them feel

MAYA ANGELOU 1928 - 2014

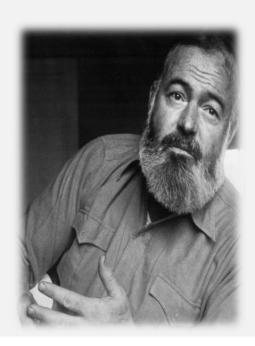






It takes two years to learn to speak and sixty to learn to keep quiet

ERNEST HEMINGWAY 1899 - 1961







The most important thing in communication is hearing what isn't said

Peter Drucker 1909 - 2005







How well we communicate is determined not by how well we say things but how well we are understood

Andrew Gove 1936 - 2016





Questions...

Find out more



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Thank you







COVID-19 **RESOURCES**

Resources to help you communicate with patients and their families during COVID-19



Difficult Conversations

A4 9 page: https://bit.ly/2UzktPk Mobile: https://bit.lv/3hpOTxt

Telephone Consultations

Mobile: https://bit.lv/2znKeL4

Online 1 hour course: https://bit.ly/37xKUdG

Communicating in PPE

A4 6 page: https://bit.lv/2Y1KuZA A4 poster: https://bit.lv/2Xw0fY9

Video Consultations

Mobile: https://bit.ly/3e4mg6M

Online 1 hour course: https://bit.lv/2AicZsz





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We really appreciate your time, thank you









Upcoming Webinars: Dates for you

Dates	Topics	Speakers
4 May	Learning from COVID-19 through stories	Zuneera Khurshid, National QI Team/UCD
18 May	Whole system approach to QI with	Dr Amar Shah

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