

Topics for Interviews - Consultant and SpR

1. Impact of European Working time directive on service and training
2. Ways of doing research when in a clinical job
3. How would you involve patients in development of a service?
4. What does modernising the NHS mean?
5. What would be the advantages and problems of the move to copy all letters to patients? What additional support may be needed?
6. What is appraisal?
7. What do you understand about the revalidation process?
8. What is the NHS plan?
9. What makes a good leader? How does he differ from a good manager?
10. What has been your involvement and experience of clinical governance, risk management?
11. What is a good audit and what is a bad audit? What are the two main types of audits?
12. What do most patients who make a complaint want? How would you set up complaints procedures?
13. How would you run a risk management committee?
14. What would be strategies you would adopt to minimise complaints?
15. How would you put together a business plan to develop a service in your area of interest?
16. What is the BMJ guide to the quality maze?
17. How would you find out about the local development plan of a hospital? Answer – look at the DOH website and go to Strategic Health Authority in whose region the hospital is located.
18. How would you deal with difficult colleagues / How would you know if the problem lies with them or with you?
19. How do you manage stress?
20. How would you increase patient and public involvement in the direction of the NHS?

21. What are your views on – whistle blowing; suspending doctors; good medical practice
22. What information should you take to your appraisal? Briefly, information that demonstrates your adequate performance, that you are a team worker that you keep up to date with learning. Performance is gauged by waiting times, complaints, progress with service development, thank you letters from patients, discharge times, readmission rates, morbidity and mortality rates, CME and in some centres results of a 360 degree feedback form. It is important that one gets training in both conducting appraisals and in being appraised. Appraisal is generally a positive thing as it allows you to reflect on your performance and also gives you an opportunity to bring to the trust your needs that have not been met. It takes place once a year and lasts for about 1.5 hours. Discussions revolve around issues of probity and health, resource utilisation, study leave, positive and negative experiences, review of job plan and service development, performance, revalidation and patient protection. An action plan is produced at the end of this with SMART objectives and this is filed and a copy passed onto the clinical and medical director.
23. Useful websites to visit before interview – GMC website, DOH website, websites for Victoria Climbié report and the Ian Kennedy report, NSF for paediatrics, NHS plan and other documents on DOH website

:: Best of Luck ::