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RCPE Evening Update: The Challenges of a Consultant

Tuesday 12 March 2024

Working as a doctor in today's world is becoming increasingly more challenging. Patient expectations are increasing, particularly as health care information is widely available and development of new treatments. There is also more distrust of the medical profession and NHS. Challenging interactions with patients (and those who care for them) are more common and don't necessarily fit into the communication skills we have been trained in. Our speaker will discuss ways to approach these challenging interactions and navigate difficult conversations.

Managing challenging interactions with colleagues is another skill that unfortunately is often only learned through experience. Being a more senior trainee, a new consultant or taking on a new role can lead to difficult interactions with colleagues. Our speaker will discuss the challenges faced when interactions with colleagues cause friction and how to move forward productively.

Finally we all realise that with increasing patient complexity, tight NHS budgets and low staff morale, the NHS is a difficult environment to work in. As new consultants coming into this environment in a leadership roles this can be particularly daunting. Our final speaker will discuss their advice for working, thriving and changing a challenging environment.

This event is free for Fellows and Members of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh and also watchable through one of our live link sites across the UK.

Learning points from the event include:

- To be aware of techniques and communication strategies to communicate more effectively with challenging patients.
- To be aware of our interactions with colleagues we find challenging and methods used to overcome communication barriers.
- To be aware of challenging work environments and the role we can play to improve them.

This event is organised by the Recently Appointed Consultants' Committee and is suitable in particular for all consultants, senior trainees and specialist doctors and associate specialists.

2 CPD credits will be applied for.

For further details and to book online: events.rcpe.ac.uk

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