

ST2-INDAU-EPA1 – Interviewing an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander patient

Area of practice	Indigenous – Australia	EPA identification	ST2-INDAU-EPA1
Stage of training	Stage 2 – Proficient	Version	v0.6 (BOE-approved 12/07/12)
The following EPA will be entrusted when your supervisor is confident that you can be trusted to perform the activity described at the required standard without more than distant (reactive) supervision. Your supervisor feels confident that you know when to ask for additional help and that you can be trusted to appropriately seek assistance in a timely manner.			
Title	Interviewing an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander patient.		
Description Maximum 150 words	The trainee can use an interview with an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander patient to conduct a psychiatric assessment, develop rapport and build a therapeutic alliance. They can adapt their communication style to take into account barriers to communication between a psychiatrist and an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander patient. The trainee is able to create a culturally safe context for the interview including use of appropriate environments and presence of appropriate supports (which may include an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health worker). The trainee can use the interview to diminish stigma around both mental illness and government health services.		
Fellowship competencies	ME	1, 2, 3	HA 1
	COM	1	SCH 2
	COL	1, 2, 3	PROF 1, 2
	MAN		
Knowledge, skills and attitude required The following lists are neither exhaustive nor prescriptive.	<p>Competence is demonstrated if the trainee has shown sufficient aspects of the knowledge, skills and attitude described below.</p> <p>Ability to apply an adequate knowledge base</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands the concept of cultural safety. • Understands the role of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health worker (cultural interpreter). • Understands cultural aspects of verbal and non-verbal communication. • Understands historical knowledge and context of the patient's community and how this may impact on the patient's presentation or the manner in which they relate to the interviewer. • Knowledge of cultural belief systems including an awareness that cultural beliefs may be misunderstood as psychiatric symptoms. • Awareness of culture-bound syndromes. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aware of possible patient perceptions of psychiatric services and how these may be a barrier to therapeutic alliance. <p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjusts communication style as appropriate to promote patient engagement. • Communicates with empathy and uses jargon-free language. • Interviews the patient with an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health worker to overcome language and cultural understanding barriers. • Differentiates manifestations of mental illness from culture-bound syndromes and cultural belief systems. <p>Attitude</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High level of self-awareness, in particular how the psychiatrist's own prejudices can impact on the process of developing a therapeutic relationship. • Willingness to defer to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mental health worker as the expert in relation to traditional languages and cultural understandings. • Motivated to continuously work towards reducing stigma towards mental illness.
Assessment method	Progressively assessed during individual and clinical supervision, including three appropriate WBAs.
Suggested assessment method details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observed Clinical Activity (OCA). • Mini-Clinical Evaluation Exercise. • Case-based discussion. • Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS).
<p>References</p> <p>THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS. <i>Module 1: Interviewing an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander patient</i>. Melbourne: RANZCP, October 2014. Viewed 20 November 2014, <Learn/it: Module 1: Interviewing an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander patient></p>	

COL, Collaborator; COM, Communicator; HA, Health Advocate; MAN, Manager; ME, Medical Expert; PROF, Professional; SCH, Scholar