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Conflict With Patient: Education on Medication Adherence

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Education on Medication Adherence

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Learning Community Group: Gray 17



Professionalism Conflict with Patient

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Physician discovers patient is not taking their medications

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- Ask the patient why they are not taking their medication
- Be cognizant of your own biases and determine any barriers (eg financial, educational, physical) that may exist for the patient in taking their medication
- Educate the patient on the importance of the medication to their health
- If they still refuse, make sure that they know that if they change their mind, you can provide resources
- Document conversation and refusal to take medication in the patient's chart

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Reflections

To effectively serve patients as future physicians, we need to be able to communicate with them in an empathetic and non-judgmental way. Making them feel a part of their medical journey instead of a spectator can empower them and make them more open to provide a more complete picture of their health. Being able to have a candid conversation about why a patient is not taking their medication can allow us to overcome the barriers that are stopping them from having the best health they can.

The white coat itself can sometimes be a barrier when trying to form connections with patients. It can produce fear and anxiety. On the other hand, it can help to identify individuals as doctors and trusted sources .

