Sewell I. Kahn MD FACP SCMA Annual Meeting April 28, 2023



Training

Objectives

- You will be able to understand what constitutes communication
- You will be able to know the difference between hearing and active listening
- You will be able to apply techniques of active listening
- You will recognize some situations where active listening is necessary

Communication

Sending

Receiving

Understanding



Sending

- Words
- Body Language
- Paralanguage (Rhythm of language)

Mehrabian, Silent Messages, Belmont, Calif. Wadsworth 1971)

Receiving

- Listening
 - -Words
 - Paralanguage
- Observe
 - -Body language

Understanding

Each party...sender and recipient ...is

100 %

responsible for effective communication

Communication

- Face to face
 - Words
 - Tone and Intensity
 - Body language

- Phone
 - Words
 - Tone and Intensity

- Virtual
 - Words
 - Tone and Intensity
 - Body language (Limited)
- Email and Texting
 - Words





Amy Cuddy

Body Language

- Stance
- Eye contact
- Obstacles
 - Desk
 - Computer

"Your body language may shape who you are"*

Sending

It's not what you say...

It's how you say it!

MUTUAL INFLUENCER MODEL

"we cannot not communicate"

Hearing vs. Active Listening

• Hearing is a purely physiological activity requiring no effort

• Active listening is a complex process of attending to, receiving, perceiving, organizing, interpreting, responding, and remembering messages

Everyone has different perceptions of what is said

• In fact, most people "hear" within their own reality, and are often unaware of the perception of others, that is why we must listen and confirm our understanding

- It is difficult to listen well, especially under stress *or during illness*
- Sometimes we are so busy planning what we will say next, we don't really hear or understand what the other person is saying
- Poor listening leads to misunderstandings

• "My wife is having seizures every night and I don't know what to do."

• Call 911

- Look for underlying interests or meaning
 - Needs
 - Desires
 - Fears
 - Concerns

Active Listening Methods 1

- Stop other activities and be mindful
- Look at the speaker; focus on nonverbal cues

• NOTE: Enemy of active listening is multitasking

Active Listening Methods 2

- Open end questions
- Clarifying questions
- Backtracking
- Clarify and Paraphrase
- Acknowledgement

Useful Techniques

- Something else
- Ask-Tell-Ask
- Closing the Loop
- Silence
- Pacing or mirroring

Active Listening Application

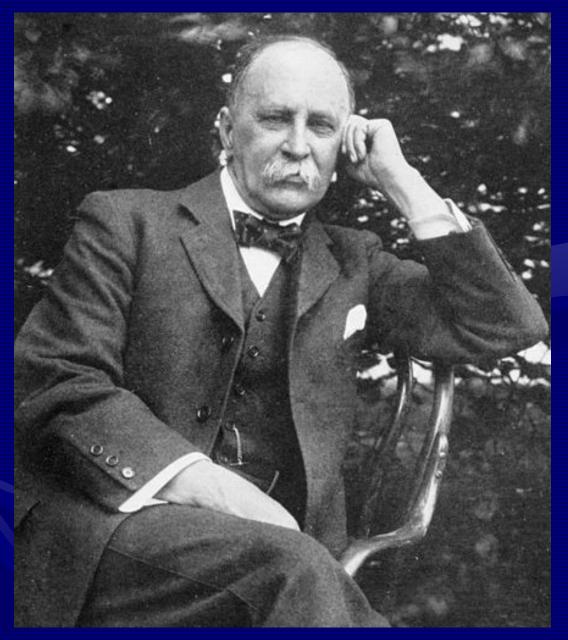
History and physical examination

Motivational interviewing

Delivering bad news

History and Physical Exam

"Listen to your patient, he is telling you the diagnosis"



Sir William Osler

Going Back to Osler

- Enamored with technology
- Facile with EHR
- But most importantly Develop:
 - Powerful Listening
 - Powerful observation
 - Powerful hands

History and Physical Examination

- Interruptions or redirection 18-23 seconds
- Interrupted patients do not complete statements
- Chief complaint is not necessarily main problem
- Completed statements average 60 seconds
- Allowed to complete added 6 seconds

Interrupters

- Closed ended questions
- Elaborator (Tell me more...)
- Re-completer (Back-tracking)
- Statement (Sounds serious...)

Motivational Interviewing

• MI is a collaborative, goal- oriented style of communication with a particular attention to the language of change and commitment talk

The Spirit of MI PACE

- Partnership
- Acceptance
- Compassion
- Evocation

The Skills of MI OARS

- Open-ended questions
- Affirmations
- Reflections
- Summarization

Delivering Bad News

Bad News

"In the Eyes of the Beholder"

- Affects the patients view of the future
 - Renal failure
 - Severe CHF
 - Cancer
 - High Risk Surgery
 - End of Life
 - Other

SPIKES

- S=Setting
- P=Perception
- I =Invitation or Information
- K=Knowledge
- E=Empathy
- S=Summary or strategize

