

ONLINE MEDICINE WORK EXPERIENCE

VIRTUAL WARD ROUND – SELF-REFLECTION

6 Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) Meeting and Working Together

**Do you think any particular person is “the boss”
of the MDT?**

What different issues does each of the team members focus on?

Can a patient go home as soon as their medical problem is sorted?

What are the examples of leadership in this video?

What are the examples of teamwork in this video?

Do you think any particular person is “the boss” of the MDT?

- Not really.
- Clearly the senior nurse is taking the lead in terms of the discharge planning but everyone plays their own part in the MDT and takes responsibility for their own assessments and decisions.
- Depending on the situation any given individual can be the “team leader”. For example if the main problems are medical then the Medical Staff might take the lead, but if the main problem is mobility then the Physiotherapists might take the lead.
- Everyone’s voice is as important as everyone else’s.

What different issues does each of the team members focus on?

- Nurse – general oversight of issues and how the patient has been on the ward.
- Doctor – the medical pathology. For example “Is the infection getting better?” “What further medication is needed?”
- Physiotherapist – patient’s mobility. How they are able to move about and transfer.
- Occupational Therapist – patient’s Activities of Daily Living. For example – are they able to wash, dress, eat, cook, work.
- To some degree the consultant and senior nurse (even if not present for the MDT meeting) need to be thinking about all of these things and should make sure they are all addressed before discharge.

Can a patient go home as soon as their medical problem is sorted?

- It depends on the patient.
- For some there may not be any other issues to address. For example – a young fit and well woman has pain from gallstones. She comes into hospital and her gallbladder is removed. After an uncomplicated 24 hours she can go home as she is able to get herself about and look after herself even if still a bit sore.
- For others there might be lots going on. For example – an elderly man is admitted after a fall with a hip fracture. He has the hip fixed the next day but is now unable to walk unaided and has become confused. Although the “medical” problem is fixed (the hip fracture) he clearly can’t be discharged until he is no longer confused and can mobilise and look after himself – or he may need to have a “package of care” arranged so that carers can come in to help him at home. This may take several weeks.

What are the examples of leadership in this video?

- All the members of the team show leadership by taking responsibility for their own assessments and decisions.
- The nurse in charge also shows leadership by running the meeting and ensuring everyone has their opportunity to speak before moving onto another patient.

What are the examples of teamwork in this video?

- Everyone in the team respects everyone else and the patient would not be able to get home unless every member of the team does their particular job.
- Communication is clear but non-threatening.
- No team member feels demeaned by any other team member. All members of the team feel valued.

Associated Student Interview Videos

- Working with the Multidisciplinary Team