

# Residency Interview Sample Question

## “How would you handle a situation where a patient is refusing your treatment recommendations?”

- **Step 1 - Acknowledge**

- Start by recognizing that patients have the right to refuse treatment and that it's important to respect their autonomy.

- **Step 2 - Understanding**

- Mention that your first step would be to explore the patient's reasons for refusing treatment (e.g., fear, cultural beliefs, misunderstanding).

- **Step 3 - Communication**

- Describe how you would provide clear, empathetic explanations of the risks and benefits of the treatment, ensuring the patient feels heard and supported.

- **Step 4 - Compromise**

- *If appropriate*, discuss how you might offer alternative options or adjustments that align more closely with the patient's preferences.

- **Step 5 - Collaboration With Others**

- Highlight the importance of involving other team members (e.g., social workers, family, or chaplains) if needed.
- A second opinion for the patient might help them make an informed decision

- **Step 6**

- Conclude with the goal of achieving the best possible outcome while honoring the patient's choices.

This question assesses your communication skills, empathy, respect for patient autonomy, and ability to handle challenging situations professionally.