## The Consultant Interview

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# Objectives

- Preparation
- Types of interview
- Presentations
- Common Questions
- Practice questions
- On the day
- Relaxation Exercise

## Preparation

- Pre Visits after short listing, flexibility
- Who -trust sets pace- managers, colleagues, MD, other specialities
- Purpose 1.understand–a) job and expectations (read job description and personal spec first),b) Trust and department future and fit in local health economy(Trust annual report ,external info– Before visit)

2 .market self- well informed , enthusiastic, sensible questions

**Practice Interviews** 

# Reading

- Hot topics
- Local and national news
- BMJ
- Trust annual report
- Speciality specific documents inc. NICE
- GMC

# What are your Hot Topics

Discuss for 5 minutes

## Hot topics

- Keogh report-emergency services/winter pressures
- Francis report/Whistle blowing
- Shape of training- Greenaway
- NHS constitution –Compassion in caring
- CCGs and shift of care
- HEE and LETBs
- Better training better care-Temple and Collins
- Workforce
- ▶ 24/7 working
- Berwick Report
- Revalidation
- Speciality specific
- And anything on the news that day

#### Last 2 weeks

- Bristol child death enquiry
- Changes to NICE treatment assessments related to patient work status
- Statin increased prescribing
- Ambulance delays
- Weak commissioning and health inequalities
- NHS care data scheme
- Vaccination and measles

## Types of appointment process

- Simple interview +/- presentation
- Trial by social event
- Psychometrics
- Interactive observed exercise
- Assessment Centre

#### Presentation

- Prepared Answer Question, laptop, safe stick, timed, practised, own work, clear structure, avoid clever graphics, care with humour, handout.
- On day -practise before with hot topic, structure, use flip chart
- For all eye contact, PowerPoint = aid memoir, inform v. entertain

#### What is interview for?

- What are interviewers looking for?
- Who interviews and what are their priorities?

# Objectives from interview Finding the best candidate

- Safe
- Clinical competence/skills including research
- Fit with department/hospital
- Leadership
- Flexibility
- Potential
- Enthusiasm
- Professional
- Understanding beyond own priorities inc national agenda, clinical governance
- COMMUNICATION SKILLS

#### Who?

- Lay chair
- **CEO**
- MD
- CD
- Local manager
- Specialist clinicians
- College rep/University rep
- Lay
- HR to Observe and record

#### **Common Questions**

- CV-portfolio
- Development needs
- Research ,audit ,teaching
- Clinical governance local structures, incidents, complaints, reflection
- Revalidation
- Why that post
- Strengths /weaknesses
- Outside interests

#### More Common Areas

- Conflict
- Leadership
- Teamwork
- Personal contributions
- Innovation/Service development
- Resident consultant/shift working

#### How to answer

- Clear, audible, concise, truthful
- Think then answer
- Don't know
- Repeating question.
- Don't argue
- Supplementary question developing answer or have you missed point
- Body language
- Any Questions

## Practice questions

- Groups of 3-interviewer, candidate, observer
- 3 questions –rotating roles
- Question 5 minutes, feedback 5 minutes
- All 3 feed back Pendleton- done well, do differently-start with candidate

## Question 1

- What type of leader are you.
- Describe for me a situation where you have shown leadership and the skills you used
- What went well and what would you do differently as a result of that experience in future.

#### Question 2

How will I know in a years time that I have made a good appointment?

What would make your patients recommend you to a friend?

## Question 3

- What would you do if you thought that the care on a ward was below the expected standard?
- What would you do if it was the care given by another doctor?

## Questions-reflection

- ▶ How did it feel?
- Can you identify learning needs?
- Practising

# On the day

- Arrive early
- Avoid driving self if possible
- Clothes- clean, pressed, shoes, make up
- Visual impact-body language
- Dry mouth- tips
- Being one's self
- Feedback

#### Relaxation

- NLP exercise
- Mindfulness and Focus

#### Conclusion

- Preparation –all the Ps
- Race to win
- Interviewer role- get best candidate and best from candidates.
- Reduce anxiety levels
- Supplementary info –questions and abbreviations.