



Setting up a Medical Society at your School/university

Widening Access and Participation to Medicine

Debates:

Suggested format: schedule a one-hour meeting with the members of the society and propose an ethical dilemma / current NHS problem / current scientific or medical discovery and discuss.

If you struggle with ideas, here's a couple to get you going, but you can also email us a few weeks in advance and we can set up the topic of your debate!

Ideas and examples

- An ethical debate about organ donation. How old do you have to be to make up your own mind about something that may have a negative impact on your health? Should organ transplant go to patients who will be easier to manage or should the transplant go to the person with greater clinical need, or the one who contributes most to society? Is the voluntary system of organ donation in the UK fair? How much consent is enough? Should family consent be obtained or is the patient's name on the donor register enough authority for donation to go ahead?
- Making babies, designer babies. Explore the social, ethical and moral implications of assisted conception and saviour siblings. Is IVF more successful now than when it was a new technology in the 1970s? Should everyone who can't have children be allowed to, through IVF? Should everyone be allowed to have multiple babies by IVF on NHS?
- To screen or not to screen? Why do we bother with neonatal screening? Is it important to screen for inherited diseases? Can a change in lifestyle mean that a child will live healthier and longer?
- Ethical Dilemmas (e.g. Euthanasia)
- BBC News "Health section" what's new?
- Should the NHS be privatised or not?

Talks:

1. A glimpse in the life of a medical student

Length: 30min-1h (flexible)

Description:

- What do medical students really do?
- What is the teaching like?



- When do you see patients?
- What else do medical students do?

2. An overview of the Medical School application process

Length: 1h (flexible) Description:

- What do you need in order to apply to medicine?
- How early should you start?
- How can you boost your application?
- What are the key dates of the application process?
- How much work experience do you need?

3. Entrance Exams: An introduction to the UKCAT and BMAT

Length: 2h (can be broken down into 1h UKCAT and another 1h BMAT session) Description:

- What is the UKCAT?
- What is the BMAT?
- How much do they matter in the application process?
- How early should I start working for these exams?
- How do I practice for these tests?
- What are the best strategies to tackle these exams?

4. "Acquiring enough work experience"

Length: 30m-1h (flexible) Description:

- What work experience should you look for?
- How do you get work experience?
- How do you make the most of your work experience?
- How much work experience do you need?
- How do you integrate your work experience in your application?
- How and when do you talk about work experience?

5. An introduction to the Personal Statement and References

Length: 1 h (flexible) Description:

- What is a personal statement?
- What should a personal statement contain?
- What should you write and NOT write?
- Who do you ask for a reference?
- How do you make sure you get a good reference?

6. An introduction to the Medical School Interview

Length: 1h (flexible) Description:



- How is the medical school interview conducted?
- What are the different styles of interviews used by medical schools in the UK?
- What style does your preferred medical school use?
- How can you prepare for your medical school interview?
- What happens during the medical school interview?

Other Interactive lectures and workshops aimed at a younger audience:

- “A career in Medicine”
- “A career in Science”
- “What’s that Lurking on your hands?” ☒ infection prevention, using UV lamps and hand washing gels
- “Sugar tastes sweet, but is he our friend?” diet & exercise interactive (obesity prevention)
- “A day the life of a medical student”

The talks described are just a couple of our suggestions- if you’d like, one of our mentors could help by delivering a few talks for your society.

We’re also keen to make other resources available to you including our international bestselling book ‘The Unofficial Guide to Getting into Medical School’.

Upon setting up your society, we’d love to send you a free copy of our book which could be used for teaching your newly founded group so do get in touch! 😊

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us at:

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