

TIPS FOR TRAINEES - CASE PRESENTATIONS

History Taking

- Listen carefully to the command
- Stand on the right side of the patient
- Introduce yourself to the patient
- Take thorough and meticulous history in a systematic manner
- Do not use dermatology terms whilst telling the history

Examination

- Carry out the General Physical Examination
- Help patient undress, if required, after seeking permission
- Examine the skin & appendages
- Identify the primary and secondary lesions
- Check the extent & distribution of lesions
- Palpate the lesions gently for tenderness etc. without causing discomfort to the patient
- Check the lymph nodes
- Focus and perform the relevant systemic examination

Telling the Findings and Treatment Plan

- Rehearse in your head what you are going to say
- Use dermatology terms in describing lesions
- Try telling the history & findings without reading (or jot down the salient points that you can read)
- Be prepared to justify any tests, D/D & treatment plan that you will come up with
- Prognosis/ counselling as appropriate
- **Never say about anything that you have not done or checked (this will be a major mistake)**
- **Maintain eye contact with the examiner (this will show confidence)**
- **Do not hesitate to quickly admit any mistake(s) made (this may pacify the examiners)**

Towards the End

- Remember to say thanks to your patient
- Help the patient in getting dressed up if required
- Make sure to finish the given task within the allocated time!
- **Be gentle & polite to your patient at all stages (absolutely vital)**

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