

Best Possible Medication History Interview – Student Guide¹

Note: The template provided here serves as a general guide for use but the practice educator can amend this at any time to better suit the practice environment and patient population. As approaches and resources may vary, students should always discuss their approach with the practice educator on site prior to conducting a BPMH interview for the first time while on practicum.

<p>Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Hello Mr./Mrs./Ms./Miss. _____; I'm a student pharmacist and my name is _____. This is _____ my practice educator, who is a pharmacist. ✓ I have a list of medications from your chart (and/or PharmaNet record) and I want to make sure that it is complete and accurate so that the correct medications are ordered while you are in the hospital. ✓ Are you familiar with your medications? If not, is there a caregiver I can talk to? ✓ Can we take ~ 10-15 minutes to discuss your medications? Is this a good time?
<p>Information Gathering</p> <p>Medical and Social History - if not specifically described in the chart may need to clarify with patient:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Contact and demographic information (name, address, phone, physician, specialist) ✓ Reason for encounter/hospital admission ✓ Medication experience (expectations, concerns, compliance aids) ✓ Immunization status ✓ Social drug use (tobacco, caffeine, alcohol, recreational drugs) ✓ Family medical history
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Do you have any medication allergies? If yes, what happens when you take ___?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Did you bring your medication list/blister pack/medication vials with you to the hospital? ✓ Ask patient to list his/her medications or review each medication from the chart or PharmaNet record <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → How do you take _____ (dose, route, and frequency)? → Do you know why you are taking _____ (indication, start date)? ✓ Are there any prescription medications you have that you are not taking? ✓ Are there any other prescription medications that you are taking? [use their medical conditions to prompt for possible medications] ✓ Were there any recent changes to your medications (e.g. new starts, dose changes etc)? Any recent antibiotic use?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Do you take anything that you would buy without a doctor's prescription? Give example, e.g. ASA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Do you take any vitamins (ex. multivitamin)? If yes, how do you take _____? ✓ Do you take any minerals (ex. Calcium, iron)? If yes, how do you take _____? ✓ Do you use any supplements (ex. Glucosamine, St. John's Wort)? If yes, how do you take _____?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Do you use any eye drops? If yes, how many and how often? ✓ Do you use any ear or nose drops/nose sprays? If yes, how many and how often?

¹ Adapted with permission from the LMPS (SPH, SMH, VGH) EEF's Mutually Beneficial Activity Checklists (with contributions from Dr. M. Leung and her directed studies students March 2016). Reference: Chhibbar S, Ingram S, Fernandes O, et al. Best possible medication history interview guide. Toronto, Ont.: University Health Network and ISMP Canada. Last revised May 2009.

- ✓ Do you use any inhalers? Medicated patches? Medicated creams or ointments?
- ✓ Do you use any injectables?
- ✓ Did your doctor give you any medication samples to try?

Community Pharmacy

- ✓ Do you have a pharmacy that you normally go to? (Name and Location)
→ Is it okay if we call the pharmacy to clarify your medications? [omit if not relevant]
- ✓ Do you get your medications from more than one pharmacy?
- ✓ Do you have difficulties taking your medications or remembering to take your medications? Any cost concerns? If you are using compliance aids (blister packs, daily delivery) how is that working for you?

Closing

- ✓ Ask patient if he/she has any questions.
- ✓ Let the patient know that the most updated medication list will be inserted into the patient's medical chart once the pharmacist confirms the list and any follow-ups that may be needed.
- ✓ Thank patient.