

Palpitations History

OPENING THE CONSULTATION		
1	Introduces themselves	
2	Confirms patient details	
3	Establishes presenting complaint using open questioning	
HISTORY OF PRESENTING COMPLAINT		
4	Onset of palpitations	
5	Precipitating and/or relieving factors	
6	Rate and rhythm of palpitations	
7	Duration and frequency of palpitations	
8	Adverse clinical features of palpitations	
9	Associated symptoms	
10	Elicits patient's ideas, concerns and expectations	
PAST MEDICAL HISTORY		
11	Cardiac disease (structural heart disease, coronary artery disease, cardiomyopathy, congenital heart disease, arrhythmias)	
12	Other relevant conditions (e.g. hypertension, diabetes, hyperthyroidism)	
13	Mental health history (anxiety, depression)	
14	Previous cardiovascular disease	
DRUG HISTORY		
15	Prescribed medications	
16	Over the counter medication & herbal remedies/supplements	
17	Allergies	
FAMILY HISTORY		
18	Sudden cardiac death (including age)	
SOCIAL HISTORY		
19	Home situation / Level of functional independence	
20	Smoking history / Alcohol intake / Recreational drug use	
21	Occupation	
CLOSING THE CONSULTATION		
22	Thanks patient	
23	Summarises salient points of the history	

KEY COMMUNICATION SKILLS		
24	Active listening	
25	Summarising	
26	Signposting	

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