

OSCE Checklist: DNACPR discussion

Opening the consultation

- **1** Wash your hands and don PPE if appropriate
- 2 Introduce yourself to the patient/relative including your name and role
- 3 Confirm the patient's name and date of birth
- 4 Explain the reason for the consultation
- 5 Gain consent to continue with the consultation

Explore prior understanding

- 6 Explore the patient's (or their relative's) understanding of their current health state
- 7 Introduce the concept of planning for the future
- 8 Explore their understanding of a DNACPR and resuscitation

Explain cardiac arrest and resuscitation

- **9** Explain the concept of cardiac arrest using simple and clear language
- **10** Explain cardiopulmonary resuscitation and what the procedure involves
- **11** Emphasise resuscitation is an invasive procedure with associated risks and a low success rate

Explain the DNACPR decision and why it is appropriate

- **12** Explain that CPR is likely to be futile and lead to poor outcomes for the patient
- 13 Explain that a DNACPR means that in the event of a cardiac arrest, CPR would not be started
- 14 Emphasise that a DNACPR is a medical decision & only applies to CPR (not other treatments)
- **15** Explain the role of DNACPR in advance care planning

Closing the consultation

- 16 Summarise the key points and check the patient/relative's understanding
- **17** Answer any questions or concerns from the patient or their relative
- 18 If the patient/relative objects: explore & address concerns, then escalate to a senior clinician
- **19** Thank the patient/relative for their time
- 20 Dispose of PPE appropriately and wash your hands

Key communication skills

- **21** Active listening
- 22 Empathy (verbal and non-verbal)
- 23 Establishing rapport
- 24 Summarising
- **25** Signposting



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