

Cultural Care Pocket Cards

Feel free to cut these out, laminate them and make a pocket card to help you ask questions regarding cultural beliefs and illness.

Remember that cultural beliefs vary from family to family and also that many people born right here in the United States have varying beliefs about illness too.

The Kleinman Questions

- What do you call your child's illness?
- What do you think caused it?
- Why do you think it started when it did?
- What do you think the illness does to your child? What are the chief problems it causes?
- How severe is the illness? Will it last a long time, or will it be better soon?
- What do you fear most about your child's illness?
- What kind of treatment would you like to have for your child?
- What are the most important results you hope to get from your child's treatment?

Adapted from Kleinman and Good. Culture, illness and care: clinical lessons from anthropological and cross-cultural research. Ann Int Med. 1978. 88:251-258

LEARN method for cross cultural interviewing

- L – Listen empathically to the patient and family's concept of illness
- E – Explain your perspective in understandable terms
- A – Acknowledge differences and similarities between the views
- R – Recommend treatment in understandable terms
- N – Negotiate all aspects of care

Adapted from Berlin EA. & Fowkes WC, Jr.: A teaching framework for cross-cultural health care-- Application in family practice. West J. Med. 1983. 139. 93~98