INTERVIEW ASSIGNMENT

Due: March 15, 2027

We recommend working on this assignment *throughout* the course.

Objective: The purpose of this assignment is for you to learn more about an AYA reproductive health issue from the perspective of a profession other than your own **or** an organization (local, state, regional or national) that may provide this type of support to patients.

Method: You will conduct an interview with a health care worker outside of your own profession or organization. The organization should provide support to adolescent and young adult cancer patients. The interview can be in-person, by telephone, or Zoom.

Deliverable:

Completed Interview Assignment**.** This assignment is split into four components that will be submitted all at once. The submission form is located on your training dashboard (scroll down to "ECHO Course Essentials" and select the submission button under "ECHO Assignments").

The following pages provide a breakdown of each of the four components, as well as further instructions and examples.

Sample Interview questions:

1. What is your job description or role in the organization?
2. What service(s) do you provide to AYA patients?
3. How is reproductive health related to your job/organization?

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Component 1: Identify your Reproductive Health Topic for the Interview

Identify the reproductive health issue that you want to learn more about. Think of an issue that is relevant to the adolescent and young adult population you work with and your personal experiences. Choose a topic that is important to you. Sample topics may include:

- Promoting positive body image for adolescent and young adult population
- Ability of adolescent and young adult population to make decisions
- Use of technology to provide support to adolescent and young adult population
- Differences in communication about fertility preservation with adolescent and young adult females and males

These topics are provided only as examples - feel free to choose the topic most important to your patients and/or practice setting. You may know immediately what topic they want to focus on, or may need to investigate potential topics. Looking over the modules covered in the ECHO curriculum may help you to select a topic.

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Component 2: Identify Interviewee - Health Care Team Member or Organization

Identify a health care team member or organization you will interview to learn more about your topic of choice.

Examples of health care team members could be:

- Reproductive endocrinologist
- Clinical psychologist
- Social worker
- Adoption agency
- Nurse

Sample organizations may include:

- Look Good Feel Better, for body image
- Oncofertility Consortium, for fertility preservation
- Stupid Cancer, for concerns related to relationship and dating

After the health care team member or organization is chosen, you should begin to reach out to a specific person to interview. Personal connections are one of the best ways to identify a contact person. Emails and calls would also be appropriate once you have narrowed down the specific unit or department where the person works. Regardless of how you choose the health care organization, make sure you tell them why you are contacting them, approximate length of the interview, and what will happen with the information. For example, *"I was selected to complete the ECHO training, which is a course on communication regarding reproductive health issues for adolescent and young adult cancer patients. One of my assignments is to interview a health care team member about XXX. The interview would be no longer than 30 minutes and I am happy to set this up at a time most convenient for you. After the interview, I will write a summary and submit it to the ECHO team in a secured electronic learning system. Is this something you would consider participating in?"*

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Component 3: Develop Interview Guide

Given that the person you interview will likely be busy, you should only develop 4-5 interview questions in advance of the interview. Questions will be specific to your topic, but here are a few examples:

- How do you communicate with AYA patients about this issue?
- What do you think is important to discuss with your patients regarding this issue?
- When you discuss this issue with patients, how do you refer to other resources or include other staff in the discussion?
- How does your organization address this issue with AYA patients?

Notice that when developing the interview questions, you should start with *How, Why, What,* or *Give an Example of*. Questions that can be answered with *Yes or No* will not lead to interesting responses. Once you have come up with your questions, you should move the most important ones to the top, as you could run out of time.

Finally, you need to create an interview guide. An example interview guide is provided below. Note that it includes: 1) opening remarks, 2) 4-5 interview questions, and 3) closing remarks.

"Thank you for meeting with me today. I would like to ask you a few questions on [insert your reproductive health issue]. The interview should take about 30 minutes and if you are not comfortable answering a question, just let me know and I will skip to the next one. Is it alright if we begin?

1. *What is your role in dealing with patients regarding [your reproductive health issue]?*
2. *What do you think are important topics to discuss regarding [your reproductive health issue]?*
3. *Do you have resources on this issue that you provide to patients?*

Thank you so much for talking to me today. I will write up a summary of this interview, but it will only be read by course faculty."

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Component 4: Final Reflection

Write a reflection on your experiences on conducting the interview. Your reflection should comment not only on the answers to the questions, but also on your impressions of the answers and what the whole experience meant to you. This should be a balanced reflection that should include both strengths and limitations related to how your interviewee or organization addressed your topic of interest for adolescent and young adult patients. You may also comment on what you would have done differently.

Please include the following in your reflection:

- Reproductive health issue
- Name and profession of health care team member, or name of organization and name/profession of interviewee
- Date of interview
- Method of interview (in person, telephone, Zoom)

Deliverable:

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