

The Three Function Model of the Medical Interview

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The Three Functions

- Connect
- Co-Construct the Narrative
- Collaborate for Care

Function One: Connect

Meta-Skills

Goals

- Connect to Self in Context
- Connect with Values (Attitudes/Mindset)
- Connect Nonverbally

Function One: Connect

Skill Sets

Goals

- Invest in the Beginning
- Align Empathically
- Join

Function Two: Co-Construct the Narrative

Skill Sets

Goals (“Three Pillars”)

- Elicit the Chronological (+ Complete) Health History
- Explore the Ecology of the Illness (“CHAI”)
- Identify/Affirm Strengths and Resources

Function Three: Collaborate for Care

Skill Sets

Goals

- Share Information and Decision-Making
- Assess Adherence
- Support Patient Self-Management & Health Behavior Change
- Close the Interview Affirming Connection & Continuity

Qualities of All Three Functions

- Bidirectional
- Interactive, interdependent, iterative
- Continuous throughout the encounter
- Sequential & Synchronous