

Chapter 5 Doctor–patient interactions

CLINICAL QUESTIONNAIRE

- 1 In what ways are the *health professional's* perception, diagnosis and treatment of ill health influenced by his/ her:
 - a individual attributes (age, gender, personality, experience, prejudices)?
 - b education or subculture (ethnic, religious or professional)?
 - c cultural background?
 - d socio-economic status?
- 2 Can the *cause* (or *presentation*) of the patient's ill health be related to his/her:
 - a individual attributes (age, gender, personality, experience, prejudices)?
 - b education or subculture (ethnic, religious or professional)?
 - c cultural background?
 - d socio-economic status?
- 3 How does the patient view the *meaning* and significance of his/her ill health?
- 4 What *Explanatory Model* does the patient use? What are the patient's answers to the following questions:
 - a What has happened (labelling the condition)?
 - b Why has it happened (aetiology)?
 - c Why to me (relation to diet, behaviour, personality, heredity)?
 - d Why now (timing, mode of onset)?
 - e What would happen to me if nothing was done about it (its likely course, outcome, prognosis and dangers)?
 - f What are its likely effects on other people (family, friends, neighbours, employers etc.)?
 - g What should I do about it – or to whom should I turn for further help (self-treatment, consultations with lay advisers, folk healers, or health professionals)?
- 5 Does the patient believe that he/she is suffering from a *folk illness*?
- 6 How do family and friends view the patient's ill health? What Explanatory Models do they use?

In the consultation

- 7 Does the patient have *illness* as well as *disease*?
- 8 Does the patient have *illness* but no *disease*?
- 9 Does the patient have *disease* but no *illness*?
- 10 Is the patient's *illness* being treated, as well as the *disease*?
- 11 Is the diagnosis/treatment/prognosis given to the patient congruent with his/her Explanatory Model? Is *consensus* between health professional and patient achieved regarding the diagnosis/treatment/prognosis of the patient's ill health?
- 12 What is the role of *context* (social, cultural, economic, political) in the origin, presentation, diagnosis and treatment of the patient's condition?

After the consultation

- 13 Is there *compliance* with the health professional's advice or treatment? If not, why not?
- 14 Is there *satisfaction* with the health professional's advice or treatment? If not, why not?

- 15 What is the *impact* of the medical diagnoses/medical tests/medical treatments on the individual patient's:
- a physical state?
 - b psychological state?
 - c behaviour?
 - d social relationships?
 - e employment?
 - f economic status?