

Questions You May Be Asked in an Interview

Interviews are always stressful—even for those who’ve had countless interviews. The best way to reduce the stress is to be prepared. Take time to review the interview questions you will most likely be asked and carefully prepare your responses. A list of possible questions is provided below.

General Questions

- Why did you go into medicine?
- Why did you select your specialty?
- What attracted you to your residency program?
- Tell me about your ideal practice situation.
- Where do you see yourself in five to ten years?

Specific Job Questions

- What do you know about this opportunity?
- Why are you interested?
- What would you bring to the practice?
- How do you think you would fit in our type of practice?
- What other opportunities are you investigating?
- What is the most significant factor in making your decision?
- What kind of salary are you looking for?
- What are your spouse’s and family’s needs?

Clinical Questions

- Describe your experience and skills.
- What patient volume are you comfortable with?
- Tell me about your surgical exposure (be prepared with numbers of procedures).
- Describe an interesting clinical case you’ve had.
- Tell me about a time you misdiagnosed a case and how you resolved it.
- Share a recent patient visit you managed (or conducted) that ended in a positive experience for the patient.
- Tell me about a recent busy clinic day. How many patients did you see during that day and what type of support did you have?
- What is your comfort level with providing nontraditional clinic hours on a regular basis (i.e., evenings, weekends, etc.)?
- When it comes to charting, dictation, billing, etc., what is most challenging for you? How does that impact the timeliness of completing your documentation?
- Walk me through how you present complicated information or instructions to patients.

Cultural Questions

- Describe a time you were faced with a stressful situation and demonstrated your coping skills.
- Give me a specific example of a time you had to conform to a policy with which you did not agree.
- Describe a time when you were wrong.
- What do you do if you disagree with a patient?
- What is your typical way of dealing with conflict? Give me an example.
- Tell me about a recent situation in which you had to deal with a very upset patient, staff member, or colleague.
- Describe a time you anticipated potential problems and developed preventive measures.
- How have you handled a difficult situation with a supervisor?
- How do you show appreciation or recognize others for what they bring to the team? How do you like to be recognized for your contributions?