

Notes from Open Space Topic Convenors

What was your topic or practice?

How do we teach physicians to form healing relationships in the short time they have with patients?

What were major discussion points?

There are specific techniques that physicians (medical students, residents) can learn to accomplish this. This learning is needed on all levels from beginning medical students to established physicians. More has been written about physician-patient relationships than about our relationships with our colleagues and our relationships with ourselves. One of our participants has done work in training patients to communicate better with their physicians. Fear is the result of being taught that mistakes are unacceptable when they are inevitable. Physicians are rarely taught that fear is normal and how to deal with it.

What did you learn?

I learned about the experience of the others in the group with these issues and that the dialogue is still in its infancy and those of us who feel strongly about it must find more ways to draw others in.

Whom should we contact for more information?

Name: Carol Roberts Gerson
Telephone: (Work) 773/281-1775
Address: 2308 Lincoln Avenue
Chicago, IL 60614
Email: crgpedent@msn.com

Who helped create this new practice?