

## CHRONIC ILLNESS CARE

**Goal:** To learn principles and skills in providing care of patients and families with chronic illness.

**Objectives:**

To be able to assess the patients' views of chronic illness

- What do patients think caused their illness?
- How do patients think their illness works?
- What do patients worry about most regarding their illness?
- What do patients think will improve their illness?

To be able to assess the relationship context of the chronic illness

- How does a patient's chronic illness affect their close relationships (e.g., family, friends, work, school)?
- How have their close relationships affected their chronic illness?
- Do family members share or differ from the patient in their view of the chronic illness?

To be able to assess the functioning of the patient-physician relationship and make

- improvements when necessary in the context of chronic illness
- What do patients want from their physician?
- What do physicians expect of patients and themselves in their work together?
- What are physicians' beliefs and values about chronically ill patients and families?