

10881NAT Course in Observing and Documenting a Mental State Examination

Blank MSE for training purposes

Background

Deborah is a 37 year old woman who is receiving service from the local Community Mental Health Team. Deborah's case manager (Rebecca) is currently on annual leave. Prior to her leave, Rebecca had made arrangements for the on-call clinician (Beth) to make contact with Deborah if she did not attend her scheduled medical review. Rebecca noted in her handover that Deborah has good rapport with the treating team, and is usually insightful and open to discussing her mental health.

Deborah missed her medical review appointment. As planned, Beth made several attempts to contact her and they were unsuccessful. A few days after Deborah's missed appointment, Beth conducted a home visit at 2pm to see if she could make contact with Deborah. Because Deborah has nil history of aggression and typically engages well in treatment, the team believed it was appropriate for Beth to conduct the home visit alone in order to check on Deborah.

Mental state examination

General appearance and behaviour

Speech

Mood and affect

Perception

Thought content

Thought form/flow

Insight

Judgement

Cognitive assessment