



Ekta

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So a lot of specific skills but more generally I think just having a broader understanding of how healthcare systems work and I suppose at grass roots level understanding as to what that means for each system.

The other thing is probably just communication skills. That's another big thing.

Facilitator

I can imagine that would be the case because you've got to communicate with patients but also colleagues haven't you? So nursing staff and other doctors...

Ekta

Yeah.

Facilitator

...and reception staff and all that sort of thing...

Ekta

Yeah definitely.

Facilitator

...to keep the wheels moving smoothly [laughs]. So is there much sort of intercultural communication in your role at the moment would you say?

Ekta

Yeah, I'd say there's a little bit. It's a small scale for me at the moment but I think it will become a bigger thing for me later on in the year. I'm actually doing a rotation in Palm Island which is just off the coast of Townsville. It's predominantly Aboriginal community there and I think that there are a lot of



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cultural communication issues with Aboriginal communities that - like cultural things that you want to know about if you're trying to provide effective healthcare. Like for example what's going to make people uncomfortable to talk about or what kind of behaviours are appropriate and that kind of thing. I would say firstly my international experience has probably broadened my horizons generally as a medical practitioner. But more specifically I think my experience in the States and in Ireland, particularly because they were in my later years, were able to give me really specific skills like scrubbing in, closing in surgery, assisting in surgery and assisting in clinics. In my medical rotations specific procedural skills and a lot of specifics. I did neurology and gastroenterology in Ireland and so those two specialties I felt my knowledge base was a lot better obviously after having done rotations.

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