



Socratic Questioning

Socrates was one of the greatest educators who taught by asking questions and thus drawing out answers from his pupils.

This is a powerful tool that can be applied to your practice that digs deep in the minds of your patients.

There are 6 types of Socratic questions:

1.) Conceptual clarification questions

Get them to think more about what exactly they are asking or thinking about.

2.) Probing assumptions

Probing of assumptions makes them think about the unquestioned beliefs on which they are founding their argument.

3.) Probing rationale, reasons and evidence

When they give a rationale for their arguments, dig into that reasoning rather than assuming it is a given. People often use un-thought-through or weakly understood supports for their arguments.

4.) Questioning viewpoints and perspectives

Most arguments are given from a particular position. Show them other points of view

5.) Probe implications and consequences

The argument that they give may have logical implications that can be forecasted.

6.) Questions about the question

Turning the question in on itself.

