

Addressing factors that impact learning

Marissa's case

The supervisor (Isabelle) meets her trainee (Marissa) for the first time.

Isabelle: Marissa, as you know, I will be your supervisor. I'm sorry to rush you this morning, and I know it's your first day and your first experience in a mental health placement, but I received a referral for a patient who is leaving the hospital today, so I need to go and see her this morning.

So, I would invite you to come with me, take observation notes and after that, we will have a discussion. Is that okay with you?

Marissa: Okay, yes. I know it's my first placement experience but I already covered all of the matter in class, and I also worked as an attendant in a psychiatric centre.

Isabelle: Okay! So that means that you do have a little experience?

Marissa: Yes. I was wondering when I could have my first patient.

Isabelle: Hm... Generally, what we like to do with students is let them observe, take notes and after that, lead them to progressively see patients.

Marissa: Oh, I really would have liked to have my first patient.

Isabelle: Okay...