

Addressing factors that impact learning

Myriam's case

A trainee is having a discussion with her supervisor.

Dominique: Myriam, did you have time to review Ms. Lalonde's file?

Myriam: Yes. In fact, I read a few additional articles and I even synthesized them. (The trainee shows the document to her supervisor.) I will then be able to provide better explanations to Ms. Lalonde.

Dominique: Very good. Ready to go?

Myriam: Yes.

In the room... A trainee is having a discussion with the patient, while her supervisor is observing the intervention.

Ms. Lalonde: What is it?

Myriam: Based on my observations, Ms. Lalonde, you have a cholesteatoma.

Ms. Lalonde: Pardon me?

Myriam: Yes, a congenital cholesteatoma, meaning a concentration of squamous keratinized epithelium. An important buildup of dead cells in the middle ear and mastoid contributed to the growth of a pseudotumor by eroding the inner linings of the ear.

Ms. Lalonde: I don't understand a word! Am I going to die?

Myriam: To treat you, we will have to...

Dominique: (Interrupts Myriam) Wait a minute Myriam. Ms. Lalonde, you have a rather serious ear infection.

Ms. Lalonde: Okay...