



# **Building Patient Loyalty**

#### How to Over-Deliver Service & Exceed Your Patient's Expectations

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## **Learning Objectives**



- Understand your patients needs
- Learn methods to communication more effectively
- Understand your role in patient care
- Improve patient retention





## CARE

- C Comprehension
- A Attitude
- R Respect
- E Engagement





• What are the goals of customer service?

- Patient loyalty
- Patient retention
- Patient referrals







- Patients have choices
  - ✓ Who is your competition?
  - ✓ How do you compare?
  - ✓ How are you unique?





What influences patient expectations?





How to determine expectations:

Ask

- Patient Satisfaction Survey
- Follow-up Follow through
- What is of value to change?





Patient expectations are:

Tangible evidence of service and products

Verbal - scripts

Written - brochure

Tactile - samples





- Patient expectations are:
  - Confidence in the service and products
    - What are the qualifications of the Doctors?
    - What are the qualifications of the staff?
    - How does the patient know the qualifications?







Patient expectations are:

Education and Information to make the best decision.





- Patient expectations of:
  - Pre-testing instruments
    - Information
    - Education
    - Confidence of qualification
  - ➤ Exam
    - Information
    - Education
    - Confidence of qualification





## Layout of the office

- What's done where?
- How does that impact the patients?
- Special needs patients?
- Special interest of patients?





- First Impression
  - > 7 seconds on the phone
  - > What is your impact
    - Professional
    - Friendly
    - Indifferent
    - Bothered





#### First Impression

- 10 30 seconds in person
- > What does your patient see?
  - Organization
  - Team Work
  - Chaos
  - Confusion





Exceed expectations –

- R Responsive Speed is not the issue
- A Attitude Not an interruption
- T Tangible Show me
- E Empathy Walk in their shoes







### Phone

- > Promptly answered
- Friendly
- > Knowledgeable
- > Professional





- Front Desk Greeting
  - Prompt
  - Friendly
  - > Organized
  - Prepared
  - Impression





### Pre-testing

- ➤ Wait time
- Technology
- Explanation
- Certification
- Clinical





- Exam Room
  - Clean
  - > Well equipped
  - > Up to Date
  - > Doctor rapport
  - Communication methods





### Dispensary

- Organized
- Education
- Fashionable
- Staff Qualification
- Staff Appearance
- Wait Time





- Contact Lens Area
  - Clean
  - > Organized
  - Communication
  - Staff credentials





#### Check out

- > Organized
- Professional
- Collection
- Privacy





- Improving Service
  - Setting standards for Dr/staff/patients
  - Communication
  - Continuity/reliability
  - Accountability
  - On going monitoring





- When things go wrong
  - Have a plan
  - Line of authority
  - Actions for recovery
  - Prevention





- Fixing the problem
  - Agree with the patients' frustration/anger
  - Know limits
  - Apologize
  - Try to find a solution
  - Take some action
  - Follow-up with note or calls
  - Let them know you value them



## **Now You Know**



- How to understand your patient's needs
- Your role in quality patient care
- How to impact patient retention

