



Northern Ontario  
School of Medicine  
École de médecine  
du Nord de l'Ontario  
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## TIPS ON BEING A SUCCESSFUL STANDARDIZED PATIENT

1. Read the SP Handbook and Procedures manual.
2. Be punctual for all training and sessions/encounters.
3. Review case details and arrive prepared to dry run the scenario with the trainer.
4. Find helpful ways to learn your script and write down any questions or concerns about the role
5. Review the scenario the night before so that you are able to dress and look appropriate according to the case.
6. Try to be as accurate as possible.
7. It's OK to correct yourself.
8. It's OK to ad-lib information that is not in the script as long as it makes sense within the scenario.
9. Try not to anticipate the student's next move.
10. Symptoms must be felt, not just memorized – feel the pain or emotion!
11. Tap into your empathetic side and try to identify with the patient.
12. Use your own experiences to help bring your character to life.
13. Recognize your personal biases.
14. Review the feedback tips. Note the type of feedback your character would be required to give and consider the verbal and non-verbal skills you will be trying to observe.
15. Turn off your cell phone.