

CONVO STARTERS

Real-world Perspectives | Clarity in Career Choices | Networking Opportunities

In-demand Healthcare Careers

- Radiology/Imaging
- Surgical Technology
- Respiratory Technology
- Nursing/PSA
- Sterile Processing
- Medical Lab/Phlebotomy
- Physical Therapy/Occupational Therapy
- Pharmacy Technology
- Medical Assistant

How to Conduct Yourself during networking?

- **Be respectful** and professional.
- **Do your research**, learn their background, field of expertise, and any recent accomplishments. Demonstrate your genuine interest and ask informed questions.
- **Prepare** your questions in advance to gather information about their career, challenges, advice, and insights about their field.
- **Listen actively** and ask followup questions to dig in deeper into topics.
- **Be humble** and open-minded understanding you are there to learn and open to different perspectives and advice.
- **Be clear** about your goals. Share your interests and aspirations with concise language.
- **Follow up** after the event or conversation, send a thank you email expressing your gratitude for their insights.
- **Be genuine**, build relationships, and stay in touch for future discussions or mentorship opportunities.



Health Care Health professional Physician assistant Patient, doctors and nurses, service, people. PNG EGG Image

The Importance of Professional Networking

Interacting with professionals offers firsthand insight into what a particular healthcare career entails. It helps you understand the day-to-day responsibilities, challenges, and rewards associated with the different professions. Professionals provide you with first hand knowledge, guidance, and inspiration that you need to explore and plan for your future career.

Professionals can also provide information about the education, training, certifications, and any note worthy experiences needed to enter and succeed in their respective fields. This knowledge can help you plan your academic and extracurricular activities accordingly.

Furthermore, engaging with professionals allows you to form valuable connections for future internships, job opportunities, and mentorships. It also allows you to learn from peoples real-world experiences and what to expect in that career path.

Ask the Right Questions

As you are exploring careers in healthcare, it's essential for you to gather as much information as possible to make informed decisions. Here are some good questions you could ask healthcare professionals:

- What inspired you to pursue a career in healthcare?
- Can you describe a typical day or week in your profession?
- What education and training are required to enter this field?
- Are there any specific certifications or licenses necessary for this profession?
- How do you stay current with advancements and changes in your field?
- What are the biggest challenges you face in your job?
- What do you find most rewarding about your work?
- Can you describe the career advancement opportunities in this field?
- How does your profession contribute to the overall healthcare system?
- What advice would you give to someone considering a career in healthcare?

These questions can provide valuable insights into the realities of working in healthcare, the skills and qualifications needed, and the potential rewards and challenges of different professions within the field.



Health System Physician Medical Intern Medicine Dentist, Medical Team, service, public Relations. PNG EGG Image

Career Specific Questions

Radiology:

- What are the different subspecialties within radiology, and what do they involve?
- How do you use imaging technologies such as X-rays, MRI, CT scans, and ultrasound in your practice?

Surgical Technician:

- What key skills and qualities are important for success in this profession?
- How do you collaborate with other members of the surgical team, such as surgeons, nurses, and anesthesiologists?
- What types of surgeries do you typically assist with?
- How do you prepare the operating room and equipment before surgery?

Respiratory Specialist:

- How do you perform diagnostic tests and procedures related to respiratory health?
- How do you collaborate with other healthcare professionals, such as physicians and nurses, as part of the healthcare team?

Nursing/PSA:

- How do you ensure patient comfort and safety in your role?
- How do you support nurses and healthcare professionals in providing patient care?

Sterile Processing Technician:

- How do you ensure that medical instruments and equipment are properly sterilized and maintained?
- What types of healthcare facilities do sterile processing technicians typically work in?

Medical Lab/Phlebotomy:

- What types of laboratory tests do you perform, and what equipment do you use?
- What safety protocols and procedures do you follow in the laboratory or when performing phlebotomy?

Physical Therapy/Occupational Therapy:

- What are the primary responsibilities of a physical therapist/occupational therapist in this setting?
- Can you explain the types of treatments or interventions you commonly use?
- What are some common conditions you treat, and how do you approach each?

Pharmacy Technology:

- Can you explain the concept of pharmacy workflow and how you contribute to it?
- Are there opportunities for advancement or specialization within pharmacy technology?
- How do you see the role of pharmacy technicians evolving in the future?

Medical Assistant:

- Can you describe any unique procedures or treatments you assist with?
- What are some important skills you need to be successful in this role, such as phlebotomy or EKGs?