

3. Social Network

Related Core CFI Questions: 5, 6, 12, 15

GUIDE TO INTERVIEWER: The following questions identify the influences of the informal social network on the individual's problem. **Informal social network** refers to family, friends and other social contacts through work, places of prayer/worship or other activities and affiliations. Question #1 identifies important people in the individual's social network, and the clinician should tailor subsequent questions accordingly. These questions aim to elicit the social network's response, the individual's interpretation of how this would impact on the problem, and the individual's preferences for involving members of the social network in care.

INTRODUCTION FOR THE INDIVIDUAL BEING INTERVIEWED: I would like to know more about how your family, friends, colleagues, co-workers, and other important people in your life have had an impact on your [PROBLEM].

Composition of the individual's social network

1. Who are the most important people in your life at present?
2. Is there anyone in particular whom you trust and can talk with about your [PROBLEM]? Who? Anyone else?

Social network understanding of problem

3. Which of your family members, friends, or other important people in your life know about your [PROBLEM]?
4. What ideas do your family and friends have about the nature of your [PROBLEM]? How do they understand your [PROBLEM]?
5. Are there people who do not know about your [PROBLEM]? Why do they not know about your [PROBLEM]?

Social network response to problem

6. What advice have family members and friends given you about your [PROBLEM]?
7. Do your family, friends, and other people in your life treat you differently because of your [PROBLEM]? How do they treat you differently? Why do they treat you differently?
8. (IF HAS NOT TOLD FAMILY OR FRIENDS ABOUT PROBLEM): Can you tell me more about why you have chosen not to tell family or friends about the [PROBLEM]? How do you think they would respond if they knew about your [PROBLEM]?

Social network as a stress/buffer

9. What have your family, friends, and other people in your life done to make your [PROBLEM] better or easier for you to deal with? (IF UNCLEAR: How has that made your [PROBLEM] better?)
10. What kinds of help or support were you expecting from family or friends?
11. What have your family, friends, and other people in your life done to make your [PROBLEM] worse or harder for you to deal with? (IF UNCLEAR: How has that made your [PROBLEM] worse?)

Social network in treatment

12. Have any family members or friends helped you get treatment for your [PROBLEM]?
13. What would your family and friends think about your coming here to receive treatment?
14. Would you like your family, friends, or others to be part of your treatment? If so, who would you like to be involved and how?
15. How would involving family or friends make a difference in your treatment?