

Things to prepare yourself for in Medical Board Interviews

1. Do your due diligence to have as much documentation prepared as you can- licenses, course certifications, CME's, insurance coverage policies, medical articles or books collected to discuss science behind your medical decisions,...
2. Be sure you are boarded or certified in integrative or holistic medicine if you are doing Complementary Alternative Medicine (CAM).
3. Be prepared to be insulted if your board is not AMA issued.
4. If you have a clinic name, have your Doing Business As (DBA) permit printed and available.
5. If incorporated, have copies of articles of incorporation and recent minutes that were filed with state.
6. Be aware that if you do non-CLIA labs, you still have to have a non-CLIA lab permit from the state.
7. Be sure you are using CURES for any schedule 2 or 3 drugs.
8. Print a copy of current DEA certification.
9. Print up a copy of your medical waste disposer's contract.
10. Print up copies of all state licenses and board certifications.
11. Be prepared to answer questions regarding medical marijuana use.
12. If you do CAM, be prepared to be called a voodoo doctor, witch doctor, charlatan, quack, or a doctor taking medicine back into the eighteenth century... or worse.
13. The attorney general or deputy attorney general will have knowledge of all charges or accusations ever leveled against you and will bring those up as if they are pertinent in you not making good decisions in patient care. If you have outstanding tickets or warrants, they may be served or enforced at the interview. You are viewed as a criminal until proven otherwise.
14. The board may have had a patient 'plant' come in for medical evaluation. The board will request that chart since the 'plant' will give permission to release their records. Once a complaint has been filed, screen new patients very carefully—they are usually easy to recognize by their inappropriate questions of your practice style.
15. The interviewer will ask what things you do in your practice, even if they are not involving this complaint. Expect questions on cancer patients, medical marijuana, IV's, injection techniques, ozone use, laser use, Rife or other frequencies, energy medicine, homeopathics, electrodermal or muscle testing, quantum energy medicine,...
16. They may ask questions about your electronic records or paper records, and their storage. Are the records behind two locks and an alarm system?
17. Are your policies HIPAA compliant- cell phone, face book, zoom, e-mail, portable computers, laptops, i-pads...
18. Do you have an employee handbook?
19. Do you have signed business associate agreements for HIPAA with your accountant, laundry service, lab service, contractors/servicemen, computer programmer...?

20. Do you have OSHA posters on display?
21. Do you take insurance or Medicare or MediCal? How can you justify such high cash fees?
22. Do you advertise? No. Do you have a website? Yes, then you advertise!
23. Do you use the words 'cure' or 'heal' in your website? Oops!
24. In yelp, one of your patients said you prayed with them. Do you always force your religion on them?
25. Do you have printed and posted the statement that you are under the CA medical board's control and the phone number for them to contact the board with complaints?
26. If you see cancer patients, have you given them the booklets or pamphlets provided by the state saying that cut, burn or poison are the only legal treatments for cancer in the state. You can only support their nutritional status or aid the immune system, but you are not treating cancer! Have the patient sign and date a copy of the front page of the booklet and keep it in the chart showing they received it.
27. Telemedicine requires a training program and certification in this state.
28. Be prepared to defend your prescriptions of narcotics and benzodiazepams that the board will look up in the CURES data.
29. They may inquire about temperature documentation of refrigerator if vaccines and medicines kept in the clinic.
30. They may request to see your medication sample log of what is dispensed, with name of drug, strength, manufacturer, lot number, expiration date, number dispensed, name of patient, birthdate and contact info in the document book, the patient has to sign or initial they received the samples. Are the samples under lock and key?
31. Be sure the phone calls and communications with patients are well documented.
32. Check dates of sign in sheets, appointments, progress notes, superbills and invoices that they all reflect the same date of visit or treatment.
33. Make notations on all labs or reports of studies that are received. Note date, time, and actions taken, then initial or sign it. Each page in the chart is gone over with a fine tooth comb for errors or things they can nit-pick you on to cause frustration in the interview. Keep a log of all medical requests and list documents faxed or mailed.
34. At times, the interviewers seem to want to provoke you into anger or intimidate you to cause you to say or do something they can use against you.
35. There have been as many as ten other people in the room during the interview (when I was expecting two or three beside myself and my attorney) in an attempt to intimidate.
36. On one occasion, the deputy sheriff was twirling his handcuffs as we discussed medical marijuana and a discussion on how I tried to defraud EDD by making an 'employee' instead of the independent contractor we had to provide a therapy in our office building. I was told that they were ready to haul me to jail in cuffs that day.