

Alicia Mercado's story

1. What are some of the reasons (from Mrs. Mercado's perspective) for her lack of ideal adherence to medical therapy and follow-up?

- What are some other reasons why patients are non-adherent to medical therapy, especially for chronic diseases?

2. Put yourself in the position of Dr. Forson caring for Mrs. Mercado when she was missing appointments and not caring for herself. How would you discuss her situation and what could you do to help (i.e., what is your role as a physician)?

-To what extent would you focus on her chronic disease management in the context of these severe social stressors and depression?

-Who would you look to for help with her situation and how?

3. How would you describe Mrs. Mercado's general attitude toward medications and how might she (or any patient) have developed this perspective?

-How would you respond to her concerns about side effects and about what happened to her mother?

4. What are your views on the use of complementary/alternative medicine in general, and in this case specifically?

- What home remedies did your family use when you were growing up?

-Why is it important to know about these practices?

-How do you approach patients about them?