

Strategic Questioning Pocket Card

Helping Students Think Through Clinical Cases

When Students Need to Explain Their Reasoning

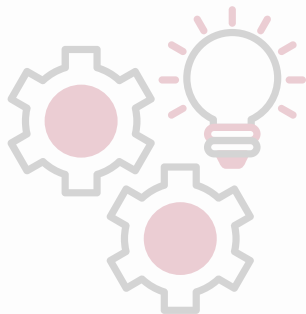
Try asking:

- What findings support that diagnosis?
- Walk me through your thinking.
- What led you to that conclusion?
- What evidence are you using?
- How did you prioritize that differential?

When Students Need to Compare Possibilities

Try asking:

- What else could explain these findings?
- Why does this diagnosis fit better?
- What findings do not fit?
- What diagnoses still need to be considered?
- What findings help distinguish these possibilities?



The goal is not to ask more questions.

The goal is to understand how students are thinking and support clinical reasoning.

When Students Are Uncertain

Try asking:

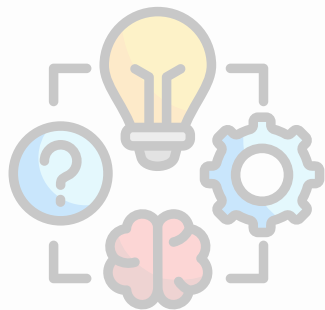
- What information would help you feel more confident?
- What are you still unsure about?
- What findings make you uncertain?
- What information is missing?
- What would change your thinking?

Create Space for Thinking

Pause before responding

Try asking:

- Take a moment and think about that.
- What are your thoughts?
- What else should we consider?
- Does anyone have a different perspective?
- Why do you think that?



Remember

- Participation does not always reveal thinking
- Different questions serve different purposes
- Effective questioning helps make student thinking visible
- Start with one or two strategies