



Training packages for health professionals to improve access and quality of health services for migrants and ethnic minorities, including the Roma  
MEM-TP

## ***Module 3: PROFESSIONAL SKILLS***

### ***Training Unit: Interpersonal skill development***

#### ***Activity 8: Breaking bad news technique***

*Prepared by:  
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Migrants & Ethnic Minorities  
Training Packages



Escuela Andaluza de Salud Pública  
CONSEJERÍA DE IGUALDAD, SALUD Y POLÍTICAS SOCIALES



SERVIZIO SANITARIO REGIONALE  
EMILIA-ROMAGNA  
Azienda Unità Sanitaria Locale di Reggio Emilia



JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY OF  
COPENHAGEN



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**Module 3: PROFESSIONAL SKILLS****Training Unit: Interpersonal skill development****Activity 8: Breaking bad news technique**

According to the S.P.I.K.E.S Strategy developed by Buckham, the following steps have to be taken for properly breaking bad news:

- **Setting.** Preparing environment
- **Perception.** What does he/she know?
- **Invitation.** What does he/she want to know?
- **Knowledge.** Sharing information
- **Empathy.** Responding to the patient's feelings.
- **Strategy and summary.** Care plan.

In small groups, implement the 6 steps and represent the situation described. Possible situations to describe are: the diagnosis of a chronic illness, e.g. diabetes; a progressively incapacitating illness, such as degenerative illness; or a de-structuring psychopathic illness, e.g. Alzheimer.