

## Priority Topic: FAMILY ISSUES

### Key Features:

**I don't have articles on these Key Features, but remember for the SOOs especially that you need to ask about family relationships and family dynamics in EVERY encounter.**

1. **Routinely ask** about family issues to understand **their impact** on the patient's illness and **the impact of the illness on the family**.
2. **Periodically**,
  - at important **life-cycle points** (e.g., when children move out, after the birth of a baby).
  - when **faced with problems not resolving** in spite of appropriate therapeutic interventions (e.g. medication compliance, fibromyalgia, hypertension).