An approach to Problem Solving during your interview

The interviewers are looking for your approach to solving problems. They want to know how you “think on your feet” and are as interested in your process as in your answer.

1. Define the problem
   If you have been asked a question or been given a patient scenario, rephrase the question or situation to make sure you understood it correctly. If not, ask for clarification.

2. What do you know about the problem? (tell the interviewers)

3. What do you need to know about the problem before you can provide a reasonable answer? What information are you missing? (tell the interviewers)

4. Gather the information you are missing as much as is possible during a relatively brief interview.
   If the problem is within a doctor-patient role play, you can gather information from all those participating in the role play, the patient, the family, friends etc.

5. Provide your answer or alternative solutions based on your understanding of the problem and the information you have gathered and show how these have influenced your decisions.