

## **Engaging a child during a consultation: a perspective from facework theory**

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This talk zooms in on further linguistic facets of video-taped consultation that was analysed in the talk by Vikki Janke. The starting-point will be the pediatrician's use of questions. It will be shown how their specific forms and frequency of use help to engage the child. The use of questions will then be assessed from the point of view of facework. Brown and Levinson's (1987) positive and negative politeness strategies will serve as a descriptive tool and it will be shown that the doctor tactically uses a specific selection of them to make the child feel confident.