



*transforming*HEALTH™

**Objectively Structured Clinical Examination
(OSCE)
Briefing and Instructions for all Campuses**

AY 15-16

PRIOR TO THE EXAM

- Wear clinic dress and white coat
- Bring a pen and it is suggested you wear a watch
- Bring your stethoscope
- Allow students to “tour” the simulation rooms/area prior to the exam, especially if it is a visiting student. (Students must request this tour prior to exam as it is assumed that you have been to your campus simulation center prior to the testing date.)

OSCE EXAM

- Please introduce yourself as doctor or student doctor
- Remember to wash or sanitize your hands before touching the standardized patient.
- No cell phones or PDA's. (Each clerkship will determine use of calculators.)
- There are two types of stations during your OSCE: Patient Stations and Documentation Stations.
- If it is a patient station, treat the patient as you would in a real encounter.
- You will complete a patient note after each patient at a documentation station.* (*some clerkships may have an exception(s))
- Sign into the documentation screen with your UIN number.
- You may or may not be provided scheduled breaks. During a break, you are allowed to go to the restroom or get a drink one at a time, but you will need to leave your clipboard containing all of your information with the Clerkship Coordinator.
- Each student has a scheduled time and assigned rooms to follow. Your first station is marked in the first column of the Time Calling Schedule. You are to follow the station progression as indicated on the OSCE Schedule. Please let me know if you have any questions or not sure where your room is located.
- You will have **fifteen minutes allowed for each patient station.** You will be given a **five minute warning during your patient encounter.**
- **There are sheets of blank paper on your clipboard.** You may use these sheets as your own personal notes that will NOT be graded. You can take notes while looking at the door scripts or during the patient encounters. All scratch paper must be turned in with your clipboard after your last OSCE station.
- Do not remove the cover on the door script or enter the room until it is announced. Upon hearing the announcement that you may look at the door script and enter your station, the 15 minutes has begun. When you enter the room, obtain a focused history, perform a relevant physical exam, and discuss your findings and recommendations with the patient.
- You must interact with the SP just as you would a real patient. Assume routine patient encounter unless instructed otherwise.
- Age of the patient is what the door sign says, regardless of appearance.
- Assume your exam findings are what you actually detect. Each room will have colored folders. If there are abnormal findings to detect while performing your physical exam, an SP will refer you to the appropriate folder as long as your history and/or exam was appropriate for you to gain the findings. The rooms are set up identically and all have

colored folders. Therefore, do not assume there is a finding that you are “missing” if the SP did not refer you to a folder.

- You must actually perform each portion of the exam correctly and completely in order to get credit. If appropriate in the clinical setting to perform a breast exam, genital exam, or rectal exam, you may state, “I would like to perform a breast exam in order to ...” The SP will refer you to the appropriate folder for exam findings.
- If you attempt to ask any inappropriate questions to persuade the SP to go out of character, you will have points taken off. Questions such as:
 - “Does this person have this?”
 - “Did I miss anything I’m supposed to look at?”
 - “Is there any lab finding?”
 - “Was I supposed to hear or see something?”
 - “I suppose you would tell me if there were any findings.”

You are to treat this as a real patient encounter in every way.

- When you hear the announcement that time is up, immediately leave the station. The SPs have been instructed to terminate the session when the allotted time is complete.
AFTER YOU HAVE EXITED A STATION, YOU MAY NOT RE-ENTER IT!!
- After you are finished with a station, you may proceed directly to the documentation station (even if you finish before the 15 minutes is up).
- **The 10 minute timer for documentation** will begin when the 15 minute patient encounter is over. You will be given a **two minute warning during your documentation station.**
- When the announcement is made that the 10 minutes is up, you must immediately stop typing and submit your note. Anyone that continues typing forfeits their grade on the patient note.
- Stay at your computer when you finish your documentation, even if you finish early, until you are told to move. This will allow other students to complete their station without distraction.
- All sections of your patient note must have text in them for you to submit your note. This means you must type “none” or “N/A” in boxes that you wish to leave blank.
- If there are blank sections due to running out of time, you will notify the test proctor and be permitted to put the letter “X” in that box to show you did not have time to complete it.
- The “SAVE” button at the bottom of the screen **will submit your note.** Do not click on “SAVE” until you are ready to submit, you cannot get it back.
- If there is a computer problem or electrical outage, we will immediately go to paper documentation. There will be paper documentation templates near your computer stations if needed. Please begin your paper documentation where you left off.
- Sounds are transmitted in the hallways; please be as quiet as possible.
- Please **DO NOT** discuss any of the OSCE during or after the exam. If anyone is caught doing this, they will automatically fail the exam and thus fail the clerkship.

CAMPUS SPECIFIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

This information will cover where to put belongings, how announcements/station changes will be handled, etc. If you have any questions, please ask the coordinator.

OSCE RECORDINGS

Each of your standardized patient encounters will be recorded during your OSCE and randomly reviewed independently by another faculty member for quality assurance and standardization. The recordings are used for:

- Quality assurance COM and CLRC to ensure that the stations are fair and reasonable.
- Help educate future and/or present standardized patients, OSCE graders and/or medical students once certain stations have been retired.

Having the encounters recorded is actually to your advantage. Pursuant to HSC policy, your video is kept as part of your student record for one year after you graduate and is then destroyed.