



Workshop on Pedagogy and Integrated
Medical and Dental Curriculum:
Clinical Examinations, Short, Long
cases, OSCE, PACES

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Learning Outcomes

At the end of this lecture, you should be able to describe the:

- **types of examinations used in assessing clinical skills**
- **differences between the examination types.**



Key Issues in Clinical Examination

- **Ensure validity by selecting the appropriate formats.**
- **Ensure reliability by sampling Students' performance.**
- **Map clinical skills directly back to the curriculum and learning.**



Key Issues in Clinical Examination

- Ensure that the method includes a wide range of contexts.
- Ensure feasibility of the method and that hospital services are not disrupted.
- Ensure Cost efficiency.



Methods of Clinical Examination - Long case

- **Traditional long case examinations are case-specific, unstructured and depended on luck.**
- **Does not measure students' proficiency**
- **Reliability and validity questionable.**



Current Methods of clinical Examination

- **Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)**
- **Objective Structured Long Case Examination Record (OSLER)**
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- **Practical Assessment of Clinical Examination Skills (PACES). PACES is a modified OSCE.**



OSCE

- **Candidates rotate sequentially around a series of structured cases.**
- **Conducted in less time than the traditional method.**
- **Reflects students' level of clinical performance more accurately .**

Elements of OSCE Design



- **Blueprinting:**
- **Station development & piloting:**
- **Examiner training:**
- **Simulated patient training:**
- **Organization:**

Practical Considerations in Planning for an OSCE - Prior to the OSCE



- **Suitable venue:**
- **Recruit examiners:**
- **Recruit simulators**
- **Run order of stations:**

Practical Considerations in Planning for an OSCE - Prior to the OSCE



- Using stations of different lengths:
- List all the equipment required by each station
- Go through the circuit the day before the OSCE.
- Produce & process mark sheets



Practical Considerations in Planning for an OSCE - on OSCE day

- **Signs:**
- **Timing:**
- **Helpers/marshals:**
- **Briefing:**

Practical Considerations after the OSCE



- **Collect & meticulously organize mark sheets.**
- **Care of patients/simulated patients:**
- **Thank-you letters:**



Criticisms of OSCEs

- Tendency to reduce clinical scenarios.
- Lack of assessment of student's ability to integrate clinical, communication and consulting skills.
- Expensive, administratively complex and time consuming to design and set up.
- Feasibility is compromised by the number of students to be examined.



Clinical Examination in Surgery in Nigeria

- **The factors mitigating against the use of the newer methods probably include inadequate knowledge, poor material & human resources and negative attitude of some examiners to changing methods of assessment.**



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