



Candidate Orientation for OSCE – March 3, 2018

Dear PM&R Resident,

Thank you for participating in the 2018 Canadian Comprehensive Review Course in PM&R Practice OSCE examination. The goal of this OSCE is to be entirely formative and provide you with some directed feedback about your performance and skills at this time. This exam also provides an opportunity to practice OSCE exams-manship in an authentic environment.

Station Format and Timing

There are 5 stations for this practice exam: 2 history/communication skills, 2 physical examination, and 1 written (consider this a possible oral exam station). There are no rest stations. Instructions will be available both outside and inside each room. Some stations may include questions from the examiner, but this will be specified on the door instructions.

Each station will be 15 minutes in length, and you will have 2 minutes between stations. **There will NOT be any warning buzzers during the station. You will need to have a watch to keep track of time yourself.** Smart watches and smartphones will not be permitted during the examination to maintain the authenticity of the experience. Please ensure you have a method of keeping time for yourself.

Video-recording for Feedback and Review

Each interactive OSCE station will be video recorded (non-invasive overhead cameras). You will be provided with a login ID (CCRC18XX) and password at the time of your arrival and registration on Saturday. Each station will have a computer just outside the door, and you will need to login with your specified ID so your recording is linked to your profile. When you leave the station, you will need to click “End station” before proceeding to the next room. You need to login and logout at each station for the recordings to be linked to you. These video recordings will be available for your review after the examination, with instructions provided to you on Saturday.

With the videos, please consider review of these videos as an opportunity for self-assessment and reflection on your performance. ***What went well? What could you do differently next time – for the OSCE or in real patient encounters?*** The only people with access to these videos will be you, and ourselves as course directors. Videos will not be viewed without permission or shared with any other parties. If you choose not to be recorded, you may simply skip the login process at each station and proceed as usual.

I would encourage you to review your own videos and compare them with your OSCE scoresheets and the feedback provided by the examiners. I would also encourage you to consider sharing your videos with each other to provide some peer feedback and assessment. For anything you are noting difficulty with, you could also consider reviewing and discussing your performance with your home faculty. The

videos will remain available to you until June 20, 2018 for review purposes.

General OSCE Tips

1. Examiners will not provide any verbal feedback during your station. However, they will provide written comments on your scoresheets for your review and reflection.
2. For physical exam stations, please say what maneuver you are doing, what finding you are looking for/expecting in the context of the case, and what you found. Please note: your physical exam should include both standard elements you do regardless of the specific presentation (e.g. the list of things to palpate in the knee exam) and those specific to the case. In some stations, there are explicit prompts from the examiner or questions for you at the end.
3. The physical exam stations will have volunteer medical students as the Standardized Patient. Physical examinations are therefore expected to be normal. Any pertinent findings for the questions or clinical reasoning will be provided to you by the examiner. However, if you find something abnormal, it is reasonable to comment on it during the OSCE – just recognize this may have nothing to do with the OSCE case.
4. All stations are scored using a combination of checklists and rating scales. This is designed to provide maximum feedback to you regarding your performance in terms of medical expert content knowledge, as well as your practical communication and examination skills. Your final station score is a combination of the checklist and rating scale score. A global rating is also provided as a point of feedback to you regarding overall performance.
5. Be courteous and use the hand sanitizers (should be easily accessible in each room) or wash your hands after you enter the room. Ideally you should do this as you leave, just like in the hospital but if you forget, do not worry about it.

Debriefing and Setting your Learning Priorities

Following the OSCE, you will have the opportunity to review your written exam with the answer key, and also your OSCE checklists. Take this time to reflect on your performance, and where you struggled with either content knowledge or application of your knowledge. Come up with some key learning issues that you wish to target during the course, so you know where to focus your energy for the rest of the week.

The faculty examiners will be available to discuss your results on a general basis and also provide some general guidance on developing your learning issues as well.

Results and Feedback

The formal combined OSCE exam and written exam results will not be available until the end of the day on Saturday. Each resident will receive a package including their written exam, answer key, and OSCE station checklists for the review/reflection sessions, but the final compiled scores will not be calculated until all candidates have completed the OSCE. These compiled results will be available for pick-up at

4 pm Saturday, or available at the registration desk beginning on Monday, March 5.

In return for sharing the answer keys and OSCE checklists, was ask that you discuss the content only amongst yourselves and your faculty, as these questions/stations may be used again in future and would be of less value to your colleagues down the road if they were broadly shared.

We sincerely hope this practice exam is useful to you for your personal reflection and learning. We welcome any feedback from you regarding the exam content and process as well, and this can be submitted through the web app for the course. This orientation hopefully answers most of your questions, but if not, feel free to ask. Good luck!



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