



# THE GUIDE TO THE OSCE

# **Therapeutics**

Practical skills in therapeutics

Specialty: General medicine

## The duration of the station

The total time to complete the skill is 10 minutes.

Accredited person's time at the station is 8.5 minutes (in case of early performance of a practical skill, the accredited person stays inside the station until the voice command "Enter the station, say your ID number and listen to the assignment").

Time of the voice command	Voice Command	Action of the accredited person	Skill performance time
0'	Enter the station, say your ID number and listen to the assignment	Listen to the station assignment (briefing). Initiation of the work at the station	0,5'
8,0'	You have one minute left	Work continuing at the station	8,5'
9,0'	Time is up	Wait for the next command	1'

#### Timing of the practical skill

N⁰	Action of the accrediting				
Opening the consultation					
1	Greet the patient, introduce yourself, identify your role				
2	Confirm the patient's <b>full name</b> and <b>date of birth</b>				
	Presenting complaint				
3	Use <b>open questioning</b> to explore the patient's <b>presenting complaint</b> : ( <i>"What's brought you in to see me today?"</i> )				
4	Once the patient has finished speaking, it is helpful to check if there are any other <b>issues:</b> ( <i>"Anything else?"</i> ) <b>Until the patient says "NO"</b>				
5	Ask the patient to provide <b>more information</b> about their condition: (" <i>Can you tell me more about that</i> ?")				
History of presenting complaint					
	<b>Site</b> – "Can you point to where you experience the {symptom}?"				
	<b>Onset</b> – "When did the {symptom} first start?", "How long have you been experiencing the {symptom}?"				
	<b>Character</b> – "How would you describe the {symptom}?", "Is the {symptom} constant or does it come and go?"				
	<b>Radiation</b> – "Does the {symptom} spread elsewhere?"				
6	<b>Associated symptoms</b> – "Are there any other symptoms that seem associated with the {symptom}?"				
	<b>Time course</b> – " <i>At what time do you most often experience {symptom}?</i> ", " <i>Has {symptom} changed over time? In what way?</i> "				
	<b>Exacerbating or relieving factors</b> – "Does anything make the {symptom} worse or better?"				
	<b>Severity</b> – "On a scale of 0-10, how severe is the {symptom}, if 0 is no {symptom} and 10 is the worst {symptom} you've ever experienced?"				
	Ideas, concerns and expectations (ICE)				
7	Explore the patient's <b>ideas</b> about the current issue, current <b>concerns</b> and what the patient <b>hopes to</b> gain from the consultation: "What do you attribute your condition to?", "Is there anything, in particular, that's worrying you the most?", "What do you think might be the best plan of action?"				
	Systemic enquiry				
8	Ask about the presence of relevant symptoms <b>from other organ systems</b> : "Do you have symptoms from other organ systems?"				
Past medical and surgical history					

9	<ul> <li>"Do you have any medical conditions?", "Are you currently seeing a doctor or specialist regularly?"</li> <li>"Have you ever previously undergone any operations or procedures?"</li> </ul>			
	Have you ever previously undergone any operations or procedures?     Drug history			
10	<ul> <li>"Are you currently taking any prescribed medications or over-the-counter treatments?"</li> <li>"Have you noticed any side effects from the medication you currently take?"</li> </ul>			
	Allergies			
11	Ask if the patient has any <b>allergies</b> and if so, clarify <b>what kind of reaction</b> they had to the substance: "Are you allergic to any medications or in general?", "How does it manifest itself?"			
	Social history			
12	Ask about <b>occupation, working conditions</b> : "Do you have an active or more sedentary job?"			
13	Ask about <b>bad habits</b> : "Do you have any bad habits?"			
14	Ask about <b>lifestyle, activity, nutrition:</b> "Can you tell about your usual physical activity and diet?"			
	Family history			
15	Ask about <b>family history</b> : "Have any members of your family or close relatives had similar symptoms? What diseases do your relatives have in general?"			
	Summarising			
16	<b>Summarize</b> what the patient has told you about their complaints: "So, we have determined that you have (list all symptoms and their characteristics)"			
17	Ask the patient if there is anything else you <b>missed</b> : "Did we miss anything? Anything you'd like to add?"			
	Moving on to inspection			
18	Inform the patient that you are about to <b>proceed to the examination</b> . Explain <b>in detail what the general examination will cover</b> : "Now we'll move on to the examination. This includes examining the skin, pulse, taking blood pressure and listening to the heart and lungs"			
19	Obtain <b>voluntary informed consent</b> for the examination: "Do you consent to this examination?"			
20	Ask if there are any <b>additional questions</b> : "Do you have any questions about the consultation or examination?"			
21	Mention the <b>opportunity to ask questions during the inspection process</b> : "If you have any questions during the inspection process, be sure to ask"			

**General communication skills** 

- Active listening
- An appropriate level of eye contact throughout the consultation
- Not interrupting the patient throughout the consultation
- Speak in a language the patient can understand. Ask if additional explanations are needed
- Open, relaxed, yet professional body language

Presenting complaint	
Anything else?	Until the patient says NO
More information	

Site	
Onset	
Character	
Radiation	
Associated symptoms	
Time course	
Exacerbating and relieving factors	
Severity	

# System enquiry

Ideas	
Concerns	
Expectations	

Past medical & surgical history	
Drug history	
Allergy	
Social history	
Family history	

# **Check-list**

N⁰	Action of the accrediting		ria for Iation	
	Opening the consultation			
1	Established contact with the patient (greeted, <b>introduced</b> themselves, <b>outlined</b> their <b>role</b> )	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
2	Identified the patient (confirmed the patient's full name and date of birth )	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
	Presenting complaint			
3	Used <b>open questioning</b> to explore the patient's <b>presenting complaint</b> : ( <i>"What's brought you in to see me today?"</i> )	$\Box$ yes	□ no	
4	Once the patient has finished speaking, checked if there are any other <b>issues:</b> ( <i>"Anything else?"</i> ) <b>Until the patient says "NO"</b>	$\Box$ yes	🗆 no	
5	Asked the patient to provide <b>more information</b> about their condition: (" <i>Can you tell me more about that</i> ?")	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
6	Listened to the patient's story without interrupting	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
	History of presenting complaint			
7	<b>Site</b> – "Can you point to where you experience the {symptom}?"	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
8	<b>Onset</b> – "When did the {symptom} first start?", "How long have you been experiencing the {symptom}?"	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
9	<b>Character</b> – "How would you describe the {symptom}?", "Is the {symptom} constant or does it come and go?"	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
10	<b>Radiation</b> – "Does the {symptom} spread elsewhere?"	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
11	<b>Associated symptoms</b> – "Are there any other symptoms that seem associated with the {symptom}?"	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
12	<b>Time course</b> – " <i>At what time do you most often experience {symptom}?</i> ", " <i>Has {symptom} changed over time? In what way?</i> "	$\Box$ yes	□ no	
13	<b>Exacerbating or relieving factors</b> – "Does anything make the {symptom} worse or better?"	$\Box$ yes	□ no	
14	<b>Severity</b> – "On a scale of 0-10, how severe is the {symptom}, if 0 is no {symptom} and 10 is the worst {symptom} you've ever experienced?"	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
Ideas, concerns and expectations (ICE)				

15	Explored the patient's <b>ideas</b> about the current issue, current <b>concerns</b> and what the patient <b>hopes to</b> gain from the consultation: "What do you attribute your condition to?", "Is there anything, in particular, that's worrying you the most?", "What do you think might be the best plan of action?"	□ yes	□ no	
	Systemic enquiry			
16	Asked about the presence of relevant symptoms <b>from other organ systems</b> : "Do you have symptoms from other organ systems?"	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
	Past medical and surgical history			
17	<ul> <li>Asked about past medical and surgical history:</li> <li>"Do you have any medical conditions?", "Are you currently seeing a doctor or specialist regularly?"</li> <li>"Have you ever previously undergone any operations or procedures?"</li> </ul>	□ yes	□ no	
	Drug history			
18	<ul> <li>Asked about the medications the patient is taking:</li> <li>"Are you currently taking any prescribed medications or over-the-counter treatments?"</li> <li>"Have you noticed any side effects from the medication you currently take?"</li> </ul>	$\Box$ yes	□ no	
	Allergies			
19	Asked if the patient has any <b>allergies</b> and if so, clarify <b>what kind of</b> <b>reaction</b> they had to the substance: "Are you allergic to any medications or in general?", "How does it manifest itself?"	$\Box$ yes	□ no	
	Social history			
20	Asked about occupation, working conditions: "Do you have an active or more sedentary job?"	$\Box$ yes	□ no	
21	Asked about <b>bad habits</b> : "Do you have any bad habits?"	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
22	Asked about <b>lifestyle, activity, nutrition:</b> "Can you tell about your usual physical activity and diet?"	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
Family history				
23	Asked about <b>family history</b> : "Have any members of your family or close relatives had similar symptoms? What diseases do your relatives have in general?"	$\Box$ yes	□ no	
Summarising				
24	<b>Summarized</b> what the patient has told you about their complaints: "So, we have determined that you have (list all symptoms and their characteristics)"	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	

25	Asked the patient if there is anything else you <b>missed</b> : "Did we miss anything? Anything you'd like to add?"	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
	Moving on to inspection			
26	Informed the patient that you are about to <b>proceed to the examination</b> . Explain <b>in detail what the general examination will cover</b> : "Now we'll move on to the examination. This includes examining the skin, pulse, taking blood pressure and listening to the heart and lungs"	$\Box$ yes	🗆 no	
27	Obtained <b>voluntary informed consent</b> for the examination: "Do you consent to this examination?"	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
28	Asked if there are any <b>additional questions</b> : "Do you have any questions about the consultation or examination?"	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
29	Mentioned the <b>opportunity to ask questions during the inspection process</b> : "If you have any questions during the inspection process, be sure to ask"	$\Box$ yes	🗆 no	
General communication skills				
30	Uses active listening skills	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
31	Utilizes an appropriate level of eye contact throughout the consultation	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	
32	Speaks in a language the patient understands	$\Box$ yes	$\Box$ no	

### Regulatory and methodological support for the passport

- 1. Gleadle. J. (2011). History and Clinical Examination at a Glance. John Wiley & Sons.
- 2. Fortin, A. H., Dwamena, F. C., Frankel, R. M., & Smith, R. C. (2012). Smith's patient-centered interviewing: an evidence-based method. McGraw Hill Professional.
- 3. Mark C. Henderson, Lawrence M. Tierney Jr., Gerald W. Smetana. (2012). The Patient History: An Evidence-Based Approach to Differential Diagnosis, 2nd edition. McGraw Hill Companies.