

Assessing Multiple EPAs Through a Single Advanced Simulated Rounding Exercise: The OSCE +

Steven J. Halm DO, Brian G. Mann, MS, PA-C

Campbell University School of Osteopathic Medicine, Lillington, NC 27546
Department of Simulation Medicine



Description

In the summer of 2016, Campbell University School of Osteopathic Medicine completed a comprehensive, full-day, medical team rounding exercise on 20 Standardized Patients as part of its third year student "SIM Month" rotation. This course was established as the students' first third year clinical rotation. The single-day exercise (40 students per day, class size 156) provided an effective means to both expose students to nearly all of the 13 Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs), as well as assess students' level of "entrustability" in each of the EPAs.



Results

The outline below presents both how this rounding exercise exposed students to each of the 13 EPAs and the means by which each student was specifically assessed for each EPA.

EPAs ¹	Addressed in activity	Assessed by
1. Gather history and perform physical exam	Pre-rounding	Standardized Patient
2. Prioritize a differential diagnosis following a clinical encounter	Pre-rounding, SOAP note	Attending on rounds, based on SOAP note
3. Recommend and interpret common diagnostic and screening tests	Pre-rounding, SOAP note	Attending on rounds, based on SOAP note
4. Enter and discuss orders and prescriptions	Pre-rounding, SOAP note, written prescription	Attending on rounds, Standardized Patient
5. Document a clinical encounter	SOAP note	Attending
6. Provide an oral presentation of a clinical encounter	Rounding	Attending
7. Form clinical questions and retrieve evidence to advance patient care	Pre-rounding, rounding, SOAP note	Attending during rounds and post-event evaluation
8. Give and receive a patient handover to transition of care responsibility	Transition of care between morning and afternoon rounding	Video evaluation
9. Collaborate as a member of an interprofessional team	Rounding	Attending during rounds
10. Recognize a patient requiring urgent/emergent care, evaluate and manage	Pre-rounding, rounding	Attending during rounds
11. Obtain informed consent for tests and or procedures	Prior to procedure	Standardized Patient and video evaluation
12. Perform general procedures of a physician	During procedure	Standardized Patient and video evaluation
13. Identify system failures and contribute to a culture of safety and improvement	Pre rounding, Rounding and Evaluations	Attending during rounds and post-event evaluation

Discussion

Examples of what is considered pre-entrustable versus entrustable are established.¹ However, the manner in which these activities can be reliably be assessed for each category remains a challenge.² Many medical schools are attempting to assess "entrustability" of many of the EPAs during the third or fourth year rotations through preceptor evaluations. This introduces a potential for a loss of standardization of the assessment. Our OSCE+ activity, while very complex to deploy, allows an effective means of a more standardized (and possibly more reliable) assessment of a medical student's performance in a well-controlled environment. In our first rendition of OSCE+ we have been successful in addressing and assessing all but two of the EPAs (8 and 9). These are currently being incorporated into our second version planned for the summer of 2017. Further studies investigating the validity of using our OSCE+ rounding exercise as a means of evaluating student performance and preparedness for residency should be considered.

References

- ¹ Osteopathic Considerations for Core Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) for Entering Residency, AACOM, April 2016.
- ² Fitzgerald, T.J., et.al., Assessment challenges in competency-based education: A case study in health professions education, Medical Teacher, Vol 38, Issue 5, 2016.



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