

End-of-Year M3 Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)

OSCE Description and Scoring:

The M3 Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) is a summative performance-based assessment used to evaluate students' clinical skills competence in a standardized manner before graduation. It assesses competency in achieving UCF COM program objectives for its graduates and the essential skills program directors expect interns to have on day 1 of residency training. Its content is determined by COM's Clinical Skills Assessment sub-committee (CSA), composed of M1/M2 and M3/M4 faculty, and reflects the clinical skills and knowledge learned through the first 3 years of medical school.

During the M3 OSCE, students are evaluated as they go through a series of stations:

1. **Patient Encounter Stations** evaluate students' ability to interview, examine and/or counsel standardized patients presenting with common clinical problems. Performance during the encounter is assessed by trained Standardized Patients (SPs) or other standard interaction, based on standards (checklist) determined by the UCFCOM CSA. SPs assess students' performance in the following domains:
 - a. *Communication and Interpersonal Skills (CIS)*: students are assessed along the Essential Elements of Communication domains: Open the Encounter, build a Relationship, Gather Information, Understand the Patient's Perspective, Share Information, Reach Agreement, Provide Closure.
 - b. *History taking Skills (Hx)*: students are assessed on their ability to conduct a hypothesis-driven history that include key and discriminating features of the history, as defined by the Clinical Skills Assessment sub-committee, based on the presenting complaint.
 - c. *Physical Exam skills (PE)*: students are assessed on their ability to perform the relevant, and technically correct physical exam maneuvers, as defined by the Clinical Skills Assessment sub-committee, based on the presenting complaint.

For each encounter, the SP will complete a checklist of items based on these domains. The SPs do not know how the checklists are scored as items on each checklist may be weighted differently.

2. **Skills Stations** evaluate students' performance in any combination of the following domains:
 - a. Ability to properly document pertinent history and physical examination performed
 - b. Diagnostic impressions & justification of potential diagnoses
 - c. Initial patient diagnostic studies
 - d. Interpretation of physical exam findings, imaging, or laboratory data
 - e. Oral patient presentation
 - f. Order writing relevant to clinical cases

Trained faculty raters use grading rubrics to score skills stations.

Grading, Feedback, and Remediation: The M3 OSCE is a must-pass exam for graduation. The passing standards for the M3 OSCE are determined by the COM's CSA through a rigorous and validated standard-setting process based on the OSCE individual cases. Students' OSCE performance is assessed across 4 core domains: Communication and Interpersonal Skills, History Taking Skills, Physical Exam Skills, and Clinical Reasoning.

Students who do not demonstrate achievement of expected competence, by performing below the passing standard on either the total score or any of the 4 core domains (Communication and Interpersonal Skills, History taking Skills, Physical Exam Skills, and/or Clinical Reasoning), will be required to complete remediation of that component prior to graduation.

Remediation will take a minimum of **2 weeks** and will have to be **completed before Block 4** of the M4 year. Remediation activities will be personalized to the individual student by the CSA subcommittee after a careful review of student M3 OSCE performance AND clinical skills performance during pre-clerkship and clerkships periods. Remediation will include a combination of deliberate practice in CSSC and/or the clinical setting, faculty feedback and skill reassessment.

Scheduling:

The M3 OSCE takes place during Intersession II course. Students receive an email a month prior with specifics about the exam and preparation resources, and a week prior with the student specific date and time (blueprints). Clerkship administrators work with COM CSSC to plan the schedule. Given the complexities and cost associated with conducting the OSCEs, CSSC is not able to offer alternative or “make-up” testing dates. Exceptions to this policy will be made only for emergency circumstances, i.e., death within the immediate family or personal illness that requires the attention of a healthcare professional. Emergency absences will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Students may be asked to provide substantiation of their emergencies.

OSCE Preparation:

Recommended materials and resources to aid student preparation for the OSCE are available through Intersession II Webcourses.

OSCE Checklists and Video Recordings:

Student performance during the M3 OSCE is digitally recorded. Video recordings are used for monitoring of the clinical encounters, score validation, and future remediation.

Given the summative, high stakes nature of the examination end-of-year M3 OSCE checklists and videos ARE NOT released for review.

Confidentiality:

All assessment materials (OSCE cases, post-encounter-note content, etc.) are CONFIDENTIAL and are not to be discussed or disclosed by students at any time, including to peers and/or junior students in upcoming years. A violation of this will be considered an Honor Code infraction and students will be referred to the Honor Council and the Student Evaluation and Promotion Committee (SEPC).