Direct Observation Requirement for Each Core Clerkship

Dear M3 Students,

The Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) is an accrediting body of medical schools. They emphasize the importance of each medical student being observed performing key components of a history and physical examination on each core clerkship.

Use this as an educational experience by which you improve or solidify your clinical skills, pick up tips from experienced physicians while working with your patients, and improve upon your prior experiences in years 1 and 2 within the simulated environment.

On each clerkship, key portions of history taking must be observed at least once. Regarding the physical examination--each clerkship oversees a particular portion of the examination. Note the required number of times you need to be observed varies as determined by the particular clerkship. See the attached chart and keep it as a reference for all your clerkships.

You may need to remind either the attending or resident about observations you need to complete. You are responsible for entering these observations into the tracking system in myLumen.

- Each time you are observed log in to myLumen to enter the information as soon as possible. Select "Direct Observation," follow the prompts.
- The physician who observes you receives an automated email stating you indicated they observed you. Be sure to enter their name correctly. They have the ability to reject it.
- The clerkship coordinators track these entries.

N.B. Entering this information into the system in timely fashion, prior to the end of the clerkship, is your responsibility. It is considered part of your professionalism competency and will be noted if neglected.

Let the clerkship coordinator know if you encounter difficulties.

Thank you and always continue to remember the importance of excellent history and physical examination skills in the diagnostic decisions you make and the critical thinking you perform on all cases.

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Requirements for Direct Observation: On each clerkship, each student shall be directly observed taking key components of the history at least once. On each clerkship, a student shall be directly observed performing key physical exam steps. The steps to be observed will vary by clerkship, as will the number of examinations to be observed (both determined by the Clerkship Directors). See below:

Clerkship	Histories Required	Examinations Required	Examination	Components of Examination
Family Medicine	1	1	Musculoskeletal/ Back	Observe posture, gait and gross movements such as transition from chair to table Inspect back for deformity and evaluate active range of motion Palpation of vertebral and soft tissue tenderness Peripheral neurologic exam of motor, sensory and deep tendon reflexes Straight leg raise
Internal Medicine	1	2	Lung and Cardiovascular	Position patient adequately for exam Examination of lung and heart next to skin, not over clothing Auscultation over lung fields in "ladder" formation, side to side; patient instructed to breathe through mouth. Additional maneuvers as needed (percussion, egophony, etc.) JVD assessment Auscultation for carotid bruit Auscultation of heart in correct locations with both diaphragm and bell
OB-Gynecology	1	4-5	Pelvic	Draping for Gyne Exam Inspection of External Genitalia (including anus) Insertion of speculum in correct and gentle manner Visualization of cervix or vaginal cuff Bimanual exam in correct and gentle manner
Neurology	1	3	Neurologic	Cranial Nerves/Motor Exam/Sensory Exam/Reflexes Gait and Coordination
Pediatrics	1	3	ENT	Describe position, color, opacity, mobility of the tympanic membrane Ear exam overall Insufflation technique of the tympanic membrane Use of cellscope optional
Psychiatry	1	1	Mental State	Mental State as outlined by Department of Psychiatry
Surgery	1	3	Abdomen	General Appearance of patient Inspection of Abdomen Auscultation of abdomen Palpation of abdomen Male GU/hernia exam Examined for peritonitis