

The Standardized Patient Exercise

OSCE #2

- When: Week 3, on Thursday (typically)
- Length: 2 hours
- Students are in 3 groups with staggered start times (see Calendar for details)
- Grading: 40 points, 11.11% of the total grade
- Review: Psychiatric disorders with psychosis (psychotic, mood, substance, medical)

Objectives

The student will demonstrate an ability to:

1. Conduct an interview
2. Gather appropriate clinical and psychosocial data
3. Generate a psychiatric differential diagnosis
4. Communicate with a family member in a knowledgeable and empathetic manner

Overview

- First, students will gather at the Clinical Skills Center and watch an orientation.
- When the activity begins, the student will review a patient chart outside the door. The patient in question will be struggling with a mental health issue. Students will be permitted to take notes on a piece of paper provided.
- The student will enter the room and conduct their interview with the SP, who is not the patient, but the patient's parent.
 - *Why a parent? Portraying complex psychiatric symptoms in a realistic way is challenging, even for a seasoned actor. Using a parent to communicate the patient's behavior allows us a more standardized, controlled encounter. This also simulates a realistic situation: obtaining collateral to work towards a diagnosis. For complex psychiatric conditions, psychiatrists rely on collateral to fill in the gaps around observable behaviors and impairments.*
- Towards the end, the SP will be prompted to ask the student questions. Students will be expected to answer questions and demonstrate empathy.
- After the SP experience, the student will document the items in the table below and answer a series of questions.

Interpersonal Skills That Will Be Evaluated

- Introduce yourself, clarify your role
- Allow the SP to tell their story
- Acknowledge concerns & provide support
- Be curious, clarify details, and summarize information to show you understand
- Demonstrate interest via body language: eye contact, posture, & being attentive
- Speak clearly & calmly
- Be respectful, sincere, and comforting
- Consider the impact of the concerns on their lives & offer counselling or resources
- Summarize key points, provide explanations, and answer questions
- Provide closure

What to Expect on the Day of the SP Exercise

20 mins	Orientation, logistics, and your questions answered
5 mins	Review patient chart. Organize your thoughts on paper (provided)
30 mins	SP encounter (includes a 10-minute warning & an announcement when over)
--	Wait in the hallway while the SP completes their checklist
5 mins	Receive SP feedback on interpersonal & communication skills
45 mins	Document ▫ Positive & negative findings ▫ Differential diagnoses ▫ Labs / imaging you would order with a brief justification of each. ▫ You will receive the results for what you order. ▫ Based on these results, document your final differential diagnostic list with a justification for each.
15 mins	Answer a series of questions on if the patient met various DSM diagnoses
2 hours	TOTAL TIME

A recap of the Standardized Patient Exercise will be done on the following Friday.

Reminders

- ★ Wear your white coat
- ★ Remember: The SPs are valuable assessment tools to evaluate your clinical skills in a standardized way. Every effort is made to ensure that encounters are as realistic as possible, but there may be limitations. It is important for you to suspend your disbelief and go with the history that the SP provides. The more you can “buy in” to the encounter and treat it as if it was real, the better you will do.
- ★ If running late or unable to attend your scheduled OSCE, be sure to call the staff on the day of the OSCE: **464-220-9166**