

WOSCE (Watched Objective Structured Clinical Examination) A New Paradigm in Clinical Assessment

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Abstract

Introduction: The need for well-trained medical personnel is becoming increasingly urgent as health-care systems become more complex and sophisticated. Clinical competence remains a cornerstone of medical education, notably during the last year of medical training. Assessing clinical abilities can be challenging, particularly since medical students often prioritize test preparation over gaining practical clinical experience.

Methods: The use of OSCE (Objective Structured Clinical Examination) and assessments performed directly on actual patients are the two most popular evaluation methods. OSCEs help evaluate specific clinical skills; however, they fall short in reflecting the full complexity of real-world clinical practice. Assessments involving actual patients offer a more authentic measure of clinical competence. Still, these approaches are often complicated by practical concerns, such as arranging logistics, navigating ethical considerations, and addressing legal requirements related to patient consent, confidentiality, and safety. It is a tricky balance.

Challenges: Furthermore, the increasing number of medical students complicates the usage of these instruments. As a result, there is a pressing need to create novel evaluation techniques that are both scalable and consistent with actual practice.

Proposed Approach: Trained performers, video-based evaluations, and standardized clinical scenarios should be incorporated into best practices to ensure consistency across assessments. We introduced the Watched Objective Structured Clinical Examination (WOSCE) as a complementary tool rather than a replacement to address these challenges.

Conclusion: This novel approach leverages technology and well-considered instructional design to provide a trustworthy, ethically sound, and realistic solution that aligns with the evolving landscape of modern medical education.

Keywords: Watched Objective Structured Clinical Examination (WOSCE), Competency-Based Assessment, Medical Students, OSCE, AGU, Clinical Skills assessment, Clinical Competence.