

# JRCPTB

Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board

## mini-CEX Guidance

This tool evaluates a clinical encounter with a patient to provide an indication of competence in skills essential for good clinical care such as history taking, examination and clinical reasoning. The trainee should be given immediate feedback to identify strengths and areas for development. All workplace-based assessments are intended primarily to support learning so this feedback is very important

Each assessment should cover a different clinical problem so as to sample different areas of the curricula.

Assessors can be any doctor with suitable experience - for trainees in higher specialty training this is likely to be consultants. Some curricula may have specific requirements for numbers of consultant assessments.

The mini-CEX can be used at any time and in any setting when there is a trainee and patient interaction and an assessor is available. For example:

- A trainee reviewing the last patient on a ward round or a new patient in clinic in the presence of a consultant
- A trainee reviewing a new admission in the presence of a supervising senior trainee on take

Please ensure that the patient is aware that the mini-CEX is being carried out.

### Descriptors of competencies demonstrated during mini-CEX:

Medical Interviewing Skills	Active listening skills including facilitating patient's telling of story; effectively using questions/directions to obtain accurate and adequate information; responding appropriately to patients affect and non-verbal cues.
Physical Examination Skills	Follows efficient, logical sequence; balances screening/diagnostic steps for problem; informs patient; sensitive to patient's comfort, modesty.
Counselling and Communication Skills	Agrees plan with patient, explains rationale for test/treatment, obtains patient's consent, educates/counsels regarding management.
Consideration for Patient/Professionalism	Responds to patients feelings, shows respect, compassion, empathy, establishes trust; attends to patient's needs of comfort, modesty, confidentiality of information.
Clinical Judgement	Selectively orders/performs appropriate diagnostic investigation, appropriate prescribing including consideration of risks and benefits.
Organisation/Efficiency	Prioritises; is timely; succinct
Overall Clinical Competence	Demonstrates judgement, synthesis, caring, effectiveness, and efficiency.