

Integrated Curriculum Evaluation Exercise

Approach to Interview and PE Skills

Anita C. Mercado, MD
ICEE Director

History of Present Illness(HPI)

❖ Appropriate

- Move from open to directed questions
- “What brings you in today?”

❖ Inappropriate

- Leading: “It’s not a sharp pain, is it?”
- Multiple choice: Is your pain sharp, dull or aching?

HPI

❖ Appropriate

- Clarify answers when needed
- Ask questions in sufficient detail

❖ Inappropriate

- “I get the pain when I walk” (how far/fast)
- “I’m a social drinker.” (quantify amount)
- “I eat a balanced diet.” (explore details)

Interview: PMH, FMH, SH, ROS

❖ Appropriate

- Relevant positive and pertinent negative items
- ASCVD*: Presence or absence of risk factors

❖ Inappropriate

- ASCVD: Questions not relevant to chief complaint

*ASCVD- atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease

Interview: PMH, SH, ROS

❖ Appropriate

- Introduce sensitive subjects appropriately
- Social history: “I need to ask you some personal questions. Is that ok with you?”

❖ Inappropriate

- Sexual or drug use history without introduction

Physical Exam: Position

❖ Appropriate

- Place patient in correct position
- Examine the patient from the right side- if possible

❖ Inappropriate

- Examine patient over their gown
- Heart exam in sitting position only
- Fail to drape properly
- Fail to raise leg support

Physical Exam: Relevance

❖ Appropriate

- ASCVD: Heart and vascular exams

❖ Inappropriate

- HTN: omit fundoscopic exam
- Bleeding: omit conjunctiva color/pallor
- Weight loss: omit thyroid exam

Physical Exam: Common Mistakes

Appropriate



Inappropriate



Ensure appropriate distance from the patient.

Physical Exam: Common Mistakes

Appropriate



Inappropriate



Ensure proper technique when using oto- / ophthalmoscope.

Physical Exam: Common Mistakes

Appropriate



Inappropriate



Physical Exam: Patient Comfort

❖ Appropriate

- Warn before painful/surprising maneuvers

❖ Inappropriate

- Abrupt PE maneuvers
- Palpate thyroid gland from behind without warning

Interview Challenges

- ✗ Poor Introduction
- ✗ Poor eye contact/No fluidity
- ✗ Disorganized data gathering
- ✗ Premature closure
- ✗ Premature counseling
- ✗ Lecture counseling
- ✗ Ignoring patient concerns
- ✗ Interrupting patient
- ✗ Poor closure
- ✗ Incomplete interview

Questions about the ICEE



Please read ICEE orientation content or
contact

Anita C. Mercado, MD

acmercad@utmb.edu