

# Integrated Curriculum Evaluation Exercise

## Myths about Clinical Skills Exam Performance

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# ICEE Exam Myths

1. You should always perform a “\_\_\_\_\_” exam in every case.

## Truth

- Time is limited
- It is a focused encounter
- You must be selective
- Exams should be based on your interview
- Risk to examining too broadly is that you will appear unable to prioritize

# ICEE Exam Myths

**2. If you forget to wash your hands in a case, you will fail that case.**

## **Truth**

- Hand washing matters-but is only one item
- Sanitizing gel is acceptable
- Exam is graded based on overall performance
  - Not case by case
- Omitting it in more than one case is a problem

# ICEE Exam Myths

**3. You must pass a certain number of cases to pass the exam.**

## **Truth**

- Exam is graded based on overall performance
  - not case-by-case
  - Individual performance is compared to class performance
- ICEE: Must pass HX/PE/ Notes + Interpersonal skills

# ICEE Exam Myths

**4. You must explain each PE maneuver to the patient before/while performing it.**

## **Truth**

- Only when performing an exam which is potentially painful or anxiety provoking
  - YES: Fundi, thyroid, painful body part
  - NO: “I am now going to test your 8th cranial nerve”

# ICEE Exam Myths

**5. If you forget to do something, at least put it in your note to avoid losing points twice.**

## **Truth**

- You cannot document something you did not do
  - This is perceived as falsification of data
- You can list maneuvers you cannot do (breast, rectal, pelvic, GU) in your plan

# ICEE Exam Myths

**6. To establish rapport, address the patient by his/her first name, using just your first name.**

## **Truth**

- On a first encounter, last names are necessary
  - Hello, Mr. Jones...
  - I am Sally Anderson, a 4th year medical student...

# ICEE Exam Myths

**7. To establish rapport, always use the simplest possible language.**

## **Truth**

- Your language should be tailored to the patient's language
  - If patient uses a medical term (“urination”), you use that word
  - If patient uses a colloquial term (“pee”), you can use that word



# ICEE Exam Myths

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**8. These are standardized patients, so they cannot have actual physical findings.**

## **Truth**

- Trust and use what you see, hear, and feel

# ICEE Exam Myths

**9. If I cannot type well, I will never finish the patient notes.**

## **Truth**

- You will have to type notes for the ICEE
- Bullet format notes are acceptable in the ICEE

# ICEE Exam Myths

**10. Standardized Patient(SP) based exams do not reflect what I can/will do with real patients.**

## **Truth**

- SP-based exams are scored based on what you should do with real patients