

THE MINI-CEX FORM

The forms are conveniently designed in a slim packet of 10 duplicate forms (one for the resident, one for the program director) that easily fit into a coat pocket. Below is the description provided on the inside cover of the packet (left) and the mini-CEX form (right).

GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE MINI-CEX

The mini-clinical evaluation exercise (CEX) focuses on the core skills that residents demonstrate in patient encounters. It can be easily implemented by attending physicians as a routine, seamless evaluation of residents in any setting. The mini-CEX is a 15-20 minute observation or "snapshot" of a resident/patient interaction. Based on multiple encounters over time, this method provides a valid, reliable measure of residents' performance. *Attending physicians are encouraged to perform one mini-CEX per resident during the rotation.*

Settings to Conduct Mini-CEX:

In-patient services
(CCU/ICU, Ward)
Ambulatory
ED
Other including admission, discharge

Mini-CEX Evaluators:

Attending Physicians
Supervising Physicians
Chief Residents
Senior Residents

Forms and Rating Scale: Packet includes 10 forms; after completing form, provide "original" to program director and "copy" to resident. Nine point rating scale is used; *rating of 4 is defined as "marginal"* and conveys the expectation that with remediation the resident will meet the standards for Board certification.

DESCRIPTORS OF COMPETENCIES DEMONSTRATED DURING THE MINI-CEX

Medical Interviewing Skills: Facilitates patient's telling of story; effectively uses questions/directions to obtain accurate, adequate information needed; responds appropriately to affect, non-verbal cues.

Physical Examination Skills: Follows efficient, logical sequence; balances screening/diagnostic steps for problem; informs patient; sensitive to patient's comfort, modesty.

Humanistic Qualities/Professionalism: Shows respect, compassion, empathy, establishes trust; attends to patient's needs of comfort, modesty, confidentiality, information.

Clinical Judgment: Selectively orders/performs appropriate diagnostic studies, considers risks, benefits.

Counseling Skills: Explains rationale for test/treatment, obtains patient's consent, educates/counsels regarding management.

Organization/Efficiency: Prioritizes; is timely; succinct.

Overall Clinical Competence: Demonstrates judgment, synthesis, caring, effectiveness, efficiency.

If you have any questions, please call ABIM at 215.446.3568.

Mini-Clinical Evaluation Exercise (CEX)

Evaluator: _____ Date: _____

Resident: _____ R-1 R-2 R-3

Patient Problem/Dx: _____

Setting: Ambulatory In-patient ED Other _____

Patient: Age: _____ Sex: _____ New Follow-up

Complexity: Low Moderate High

Focus: Data Gathering Diagnosis Therapy Counseling

1. Medical Interviewing Skills (Not observed)
1 2 3 | 4 5 6 | 7 8 9
UNSATISFACTORY | SATISFACTORY | SUPERIOR

2. Physical Examination Skills (Not observed)
1 2 3 | 4 5 6 | 7 8 9
UNSATISFACTORY | SATISFACTORY | SUPERIOR

3. Humanistic Qualities/Professionalism
1 2 3 | 4 5 6 | 7 8 9
UNSATISFACTORY | SATISFACTORY | SUPERIOR

4. Clinical Judgment (Not observed)
1 2 3 | 4 5 6 | 7 8 9
UNSATISFACTORY | SATISFACTORY | SUPERIOR

5. Counseling Skills (Not observed)
1 2 3 | 4 5 6 | 7 8 9
UNSATISFACTORY | SATISFACTORY | SUPERIOR

6. Organization/Efficiency (Not observed)
1 2 3 | 4 5 6 | 7 8 9
UNSATISFACTORY | SATISFACTORY | SUPERIOR

7. Overall Clinical Competence (Not observed)
1 2 3 | 4 5 6 | 7 8 9
UNSATISFACTORY | SATISFACTORY | SUPERIOR

Mini-CEX Time: Observing: _____ Mins Providing Feedback: _____ Mins

Evaluator Satisfaction with Mini-CEX

LOW 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 HIGH

Resident Satisfaction with Mini-CEX

LOW 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 HIGH

Comments: _____

Resident Signature _____ Evaluator Signature _____