

STRUCTURED OBJECTIVE CLINICAL EVALUATION FOR PHARMACY STUDENTS ON INTERSHIPS AT THE HOSPITAL

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BACKGROUND

Structured assessment for final year students is a teaching tool based on the Miller's Pyramid that has been implemented in Spain for many years. To carry out this evaluation system for students doing internships in the hospital's Pharmacy Service is very innovative.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

To describe the process of designing a structured evaluation for students who are doing their internship in the hospital Pharmacy Service. The purpose of the objective assessment is to verify that the students can demonstrate what they have learned during their hospital practice. To do this, different clinical skills and technical skills will be evaluated, simulating real situations related to the work of the Pharmacy Service.

METHOD

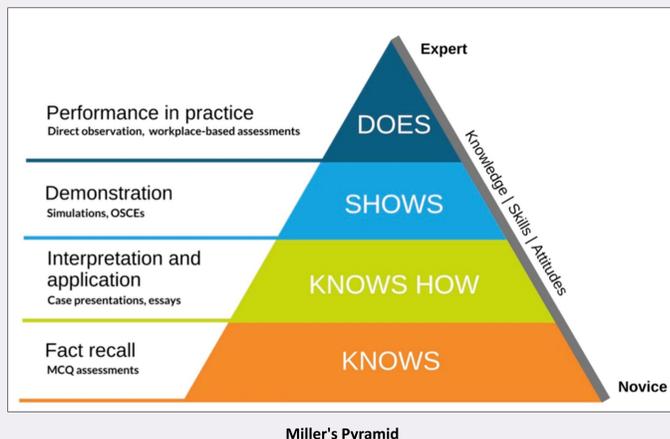
This work is based on the Miller's pyramid of clinical competence. The student has a limited time to perform the task, and an external evaluator will be present during the entire assessment. Sometimes, it is necessary to use actors who pretend to be patient. The qualification method is totally objective, through a previously defined checklist.

All items are related to daily assistance activities of the hospital pharmacy. They are called "stations".

Each station has the same documents:

- Initial situation (a brief summary so that the student knows how to proceed)
- Station guide (document explaining all the details of the test and the answers to the questions proposed)
- Checklist (detailed and objective questionnaire to evaluate the student)

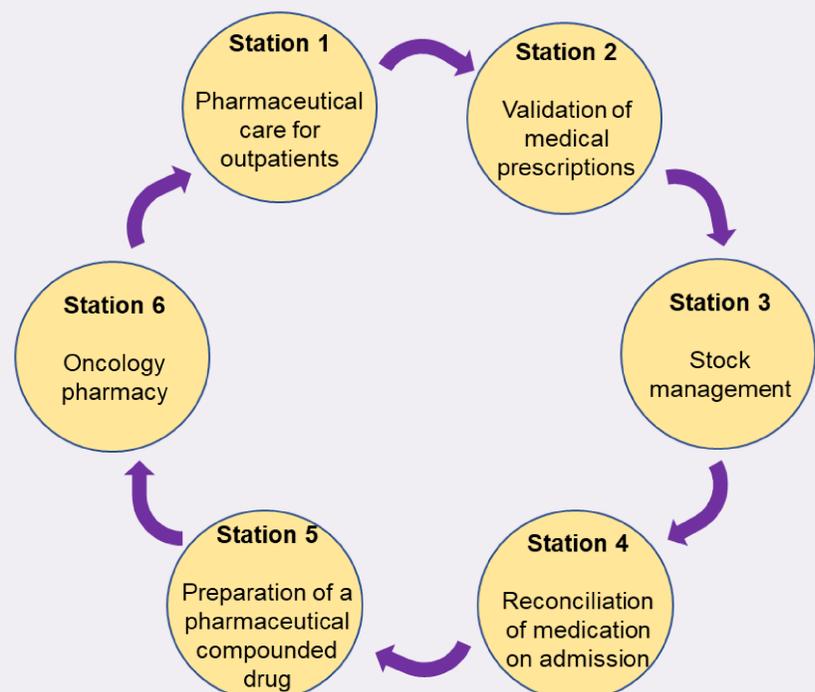
Six tests have been established: pharmaceutical care for outpatients, validation of medical prescriptions, stock management, reconciliation of medication on admission, preparation of a master formula and oncology pharmacy.



Students during an objective clinical assesment

Station 4: Reconciliation of medication on admission	
Task to complete	Skill evaluated
Detection of discrepancies.	Clinical
Classification of discrepancies.	Clinical
Management of health information sources.	Technical
Knowledge of the pharmacy software	Technical
Appropriate interpretation of a medical prescription	Clinical
Communication with the prescribing doctor.	Communication

Example of the different skills evaluated in a station



RESULTS

The objective clinical evaluation has been structured in 6 tests, in which a total of 24 students may be examined. The presence of 6 evaluators and 3 actors will be necessary. The cost of each test will be minimal, because most of the materials are donations from pharmaceutical laboratories and other companies. The qualification is immediate, and the duration of the test will be about 3 hours. The checklist of each test will be reviewed by two evaluators, and must include items on clinical, technical and interprofessional communication skills.