

**Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine  
Clinical Education Center**

**Virtual OSCE  
STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS**

Developed by the NUFSM CEC Staff:

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1. Before OSCE:

- Test Zoom on your computer: <https://zoom.us/test>
- Be sure you can **access LearningSpace** on your computer:
  - See document: "Student Learning Space guide for off campus access"
  - UPDATE: For this OSCE only: **VPN access is NOT required** to access LearningSpace
- Prepare for OSCE:
  - Dress professionally including wearing your white coat (if available)
  - Have your computer plugged in or fully charged since using Zoom consumes lots of battery
  - Choose a quiet, confidential space with a neutral background where you will not be interrupted throughout the duration of the OSCE
  - Have a pen and blank paper available to take notes. Using the keyboard makes too much noise on Zoom.
- Remember the [FSM Student Code of Conduct](#) which is particularly relevant for the virtual OSCE. You will be asked to verbally attest to the Code of Conduct at the start of each OSCE case.

2. Student Orientation:

- If you have any **technical difficulties** during the OSCE, please **use the Chat feature in Teams to reach Abel Nunez**. In a pinch, you may also email Abel at: [XXX.XXXX@northwestern.edu](mailto:XXX.XXXX@northwestern.edu)
- At your assigned time, click on the Zoom link provided in the email
- There will be 2 times for Student Orientation. Refer to the email you received with your assigned time.

- At first you will be in a virtual “Waiting Room” with the other students who are taking the OSCE. Please be patient and remain in the Waiting Room until the start of Student Orientation.
- At the end of the Student Orientation, all students will be sent to separate breakout rooms. Each breakout room will include:
  - One student
  - One SP
  - One Monitor

### 3. SP Encounter:

- The Monitor will observe the entire case—both the SP encounter and the Post-Encounter Note. The Monitor is a staff person who is present to help with technical issues. Please do NOT ask the Monitor medical questions about the case.
- The Monitor will show you a copy of the FSM Student Code of Conduct and ask you to **verbally agree to abide by the Code of Conduct** throughout the OSCE.
- The Monitor will show you the **Student Instructions**. You may ask the Monitor to see the Student Instructions again at any time throughout the encounter.
- Instead of pretending that you are in the room with the SP, the case is constructed as a **Telemed appointment**. You should interact with the SP the same way you would interact with a real patient in a Telemed appointment.
- You will have **30 minutes** for the encounter with the SP with a **5 minute warning**
- Elicit the full history including: PMH, PSH, SH, FH, medications, etc
- You may take notes throughout the encounter:
  - Please use a **pen and paper** to take notes since typing on the keyboard often creates loud background noise when using Zoom
  - You may ask to see the Student Instructions or other documents again at any time throughout the encounter, so you do not need to write down vital signs, etc.
  - You are on your honor to **discard your notes** after the OSCE is completed
- There is **no physical exam** for this case
- Before concluding the SP encounter please **discuss your findings** with your patient and the **next steps**
- Assess the **patient's response** to your plan and **check for understanding**
- End the encounter the same way you would end a real Telemed appointment. You may want to say something like, “I’m going to speak with my supervising doctor, and then we will call you back together.”

### 4. Post-Encounter Note:

- You will have **30 minutes** for the Post-Encounter Note with a **5 minute warning**
- You will type the note in LearningSpace
- The Monitor will instruct you when time is up
- Remember to **discard any notes** you made during the case

## 5. Computer Cases:

- All students will complete the computer cases at the same time
- **Please join the Zoom link provided in your email** to reconvene before the computer case portion begins.
- The first group will have about a 90 minute break between the end of the SP encounter/note and the start of the Computer Cases
- Please remember the Code of Conduct during any breaks and do not discuss the content of the OSCE with anyone
- You will then have **60 minutes** to complete 4 computer cases
- When you are instructed, you will log in again to LearningSpace:  
<https://XXXXXX.northwestern.edu/>
- You are **on your honor** to complete the computer cases in 60 minutes. There is a timer on the LearningSpace screen.
- 4 computer cases
  - **2 short-answer cases:** You will be given cases and asked short questions requiring mostly short answers based on the cases. After each question, you will be given additional information and asked further questions. You will not be able to go back to previous questions, once you complete them.
  - **2 multiple choice cases:** You will be given a neuroradiology picture, CSF findings or physical examination finding picture or video and asked 5 multiple choice questions on them.
- When you are finished click **“Submit”**
- **Logout** of LearningSpace
- **Discard** any notes