



## OSCE Checklist: Gastrointestinal History Taking

<b>Opening the consultation</b>	
1	Introduce yourself to the patient including your name and role
2	Confirm the patient's name and date of birth
3	Explain that you'd like to take a history from the patient
4	Gain consent to proceed with taking a history
<b>Presenting complaint</b>	
5	Use open questioning to explore the patient's presenting complaint
<b>History of presenting complaint</b>	
6	Site: ask where the symptom is (if relevant)
7	Onset: clarify when the symptom first started and if it the onset was sudden or gradual
8	Character: ask the patient to describe how the symptom feels
9	Radiation: ask if the symptom moves anywhere else
10	Associated symptoms: ask if there are any other associated symptoms
11	Time course: ask how the symptom has changed over time
12	Exacerbating or relieving factors: ask if anything makes the symptom worse or better
13	Severity: ask how severe the symptom is on a scale of 0-10
14	Screen for other key gastrointestinal symptoms
15	Explore the patient's ideas, concerns and expectations
16	Summarise the patient's presenting complaint
<b>Systemic enquiry</b>	
17	Screen for relevant symptoms in other body systems
<b>Travel history</b>	
18	Take a travel history if relevant to the presenting complaint
<b>Past medical history</b>	
19	Screen for conditions that increase the risk of gastrointestinal disease
20	Ask about pre-existing gastrointestinal disease
21	Ask about other medical diagnoses, previous surgical history and procedures
22	Ask if the patient has any allergies and if so, clarify what kind of reaction they had to the substance
<b>Drug history</b>	
23	Ask if the patient is currently taking any prescribed medications or over-the-counter remedies

Family history	
24	Ask if there is any family history of gastrointestinal disease
Social history	
25	Explore the patient's general social context (accommodation, who the patient lives with, how the patient manages with activities of daily living, care needs)
26	Take a smoking history
27	Take an alcohol history
28	Ask about recreational drug use
29	Ask about problematic gambling
30	Ask about exercise and diet
Closing the consultation	
31	Summarise the salient points of the history back to the patient and ask if they feel anything has been missed
32	Thank the patient for their time
Key communication skills	
33	Active listening
34	Summarising
35	Signposting

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