



OSCE Checklist: HINTS Exam

Introduction		
1	Wash your hands and don PPE if appropriate	
2	Introduce yourself to the patient including your name and role	
3	Confirm the patient's name and date of birth	
4	Briefly explain what the examination will involve using patient-friendly language	
5	Gain consent to proceed with the examination	
6	Position the patient on a chair or sitting upright on a clinical examination couch.	
7	Ask the patient if they have any pain before proceeding with the clinical examination	
Head-impulse test		
8	Gently move the patient's head side to side, making sure the neck muscles are relaxed	
9	Then ask the patient to keep looking at your nose whilst you turn their head left and right	
10	Turn the patient's head 10-20 degrees to each side rapidly and then back to the midpoint	
Nystagmus		
11	Observe the patient's primary gaze while they look straight ahead	
12	Then ask the patient to look to the left and to the right without fixating on any object (which can minimise nystagmus)	
Test of skew		
13	Ask the patient to look at your nose and subsequently cover one of their eyes	
14	Then, quickly move your hand to cover the patient's other eye. During this process, observe the uncovered eye for any vertical and/or diagonal corrective movement.	
15	Repeat this manoeuvre on the other eye	
To complete the examination...		
16	Explain to the patient that the examination is now finished	
17	Thank the patient for their time	
18	Dispose of PPE appropriately and wash your hands	
19	Summarise your findings	