# OSCE Checklist: Oral Cavity Examination

## 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 sitting on a chair
7. If the patient has any dentures or implants, ask them to remove them for the assessment
8. Ask if the patient has any pain before proceeding
9. Don some non-sterile gloves (if not already wearing some)
10. Gather appropriate equipment

## General inspection

11. Inspect the patient’s face for evidence of salivary gland swelling

## Closer inspection

12. Inspect the lips for abnormalities
13. Inspect the teeth and gums for abnormalities
14. Inspect the tongue for abnormalities
15. Inspect the buccal mucosa and parotid duct for abnormalities
16. Inspect the palate and uvula for abnormalities
17. Inspect the tonsils, pharyngeal arches and uvula for abnormalities
18. Inspect the floor of the mouth for abnormalities

## Palpation

19. With one finger palpating the neck externally and the other gloved finger in the oral cavity, gently palpate any identified lumps from both sides.
20. Palpate the lateral walls of the mouth to assess the parotid gland and duct.
21. Palpate the floor of the mouth to assess the submandibular gland and sublingual gland.

## To complete the examination...

22. Explain to the patient that the examination is now finished
23. Thank the patient for their time
24. Dispose of PPE appropriately and wash your hands
25. Summarise your findings
Suggest further assessments and investigations (e.g. examination of the neck, ears and temporomandibular joint)

Read the full guide at geekymedics.com

Download our clinical skills app