



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	

26	Suggest further assessments and investigations (e.g. examination of the neck, ears and temporomandibular joint)	
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Read the full guide at
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