



OSCE Checklist: Renal System 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	Adjust the head of the bed to a 45° angle and ask the patient to lay on the bed.
7	Adequately expose the patient's abdomen for the examination from the waist up (offer a blanket to allow exposure only when required). Exposure of the patient's lower legs can also be helpful to assess for peripheral oedema.
8	Ask the patient if they have any pain before proceeding with the clinical examination
General inspection	
9	Inspect the patient from the end of the bed whilst at rest, looking for clinical signs suggestive of underlying pathology
Hands	
10	Inspect the hands and nails for clinical signs relevant to the renal system
11	Assess for asterixis
12	Assess skin turgor
Arms	
13	Inspect the arms for clinical signs relevant to the renal system
14	Inspect for an arteriovenous fistula and palpate/auscultate if present
15	Palpate the radial pulse, assessing rate and rhythm
16	Offer to measure the patient's blood pressure
Face	
17	Inspect the patient's face for clinical signs relevant to the renal system
18	Inspect for evidence of conjunctival pallor
19	Inspect the mouth for evidence of gingival hypertrophy
Neck	
20	Assess jugular venous pressure
21	Inspect the neck for evidence of scars or the presence of a dialysis catheter
Chest	
22	Inspect the chest for clinical signs relevant to the renal system
23	Percuss the chest wall to assess for evidence of pleural effusion

24	Palpate the apex beat	
25	Auscultate the heart	
26	Auscultate the lung bases	
Abdomen		
27	Position the patient lying flat on the bed, with their arms by their sides and legs uncrossed for abdominal inspection and subsequent palpation	
28	Inspect the patient's abdomen for signs suggestive of renal pathology	
29	Lightly palpate each of the nine abdominal regions, assessing for clinical signs suggestive of renal disease	
30	Palpate each of the nine abdominal regions again, this time applying greater pressure to identify any deeper masses	
31	Ballot the kidneys	
32	Assess for shifting dullness	
33	Auscultate for renal bruits	
Peripheral and sacral oedema		
34	Assess the patient's lower legs and sacrum evidence of pitting oedema	
To complete the examination...		
35	Explain to the patient that the examination is now finished	
36	Thank the patient for their time	
37	Dispose of PPE appropriately and wash your hands	
38	Summarise your findings	
39	Suggest further assessments and investigations (e.g. blood pressure measurement, fundoscopy, urinalysis, U&Es)	

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