



# OSCE Checklist: Lower Limb Neurological Examination

| Introduction       |                                                                                                                  |  |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 1                  | Gather equipment                                                                                                 |  |
| 2                  | Wash your hands and don PPE if appropriate                                                                       |  |
| 3                  | Introduce yourself to the patient including your name and role                                                   |  |
| 4                  | Confirm the patient's name and date of birth                                                                     |  |
| 5                  | Briefly explain what the examination will involve using patient-friendly language                                |  |
| 6                  | Gain consent to proceed with the examination                                                                     |  |
| 7                  | Position the patient appropriately on the examination couch                                                      |  |
| 8                  | Ask if the patient has any pain before proceeding                                                                |  |
| General inspection |                                                                                                                  |  |
| 9                  | Perform a brief general inspection of the patient, looking for clinical signs suggestive of underlying pathology |  |
| Gait               |                                                                                                                  |  |
| 10                 | Assess the patient's normal gait                                                                                 |  |
| 11                 | Observe the patient performing tandem gait                                                                       |  |
| Romberg's test     |                                                                                                                  |  |
| 12                 | Perform Romberg's test                                                                                           |  |
| Tone               |                                                                                                                  |  |
| 13                 | Perform leg roll                                                                                                 |  |
| 14                 | Perform leg lift                                                                                                 |  |
| 15                 | Assess for ankle clonus                                                                                          |  |
| Power              |                                                                                                                  |  |
| 16                 | Assess hip flexion                                                                                               |  |
| 17                 | Assess hip extension                                                                                             |  |
| 18                 | Assess knee flexion                                                                                              |  |
| 19                 | Assess knee extension                                                                                            |  |
| 20                 | Assess ankle dorsiflexion                                                                                        |  |
| 21                 | Assess ankle plantarflexion                                                                                      |  |
| 22                 | Assess big toe extension                                                                                         |  |
| Reflexes           |                                                                                                                  |  |
| 23                 | Assess knee-jerk reflex                                                                                          |  |
| 24                 | Assess ankle-jerk reflex                                                                                         |  |

|                                       |                                                                                                   |  |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <b>25</b>                             | Assess plantar reflex                                                                             |  |
| <b>Sensation</b>                      |                                                                                                   |  |
| <b>26</b>                             | Assess light touch sensation across lower limb dermatomes                                         |  |
| <b>27</b>                             | Assess pin-prick sensation across lower limb dermatomes                                           |  |
| <b>28</b>                             | Assess vibration sensation                                                                        |  |
| <b>29</b>                             | Assess proprioception                                                                             |  |
| <b>Coordination</b>                   |                                                                                                   |  |
| <b>30</b>                             | Perform heel-to-shin test                                                                         |  |
| <b>To complete the examination...</b> |                                                                                                   |  |
| <b>31</b>                             | Explain to the patient that the examination is now finished                                       |  |
| <b>32</b>                             | Thank the patient for their time                                                                  |  |
| <b>33</b>                             | Dispose of PPE appropriately and wash your hands                                                  |  |
| <b>34</b>                             | Summarise your findings                                                                           |  |
| <b>35</b>                             | Suggest further assessments and investigations (e.g. full neurological examination, neuroimaging) |  |

Read the full guide at  
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