



OSCE Checklist: Mental State Examination

Opening the consultation		
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	Explain that you'd like to have a chat with the patient to see how they're currently feeling	
5	Gain consent to proceed with a mental state examination	
Appearance		
6	Observe the patient's appearance	
Behaviour		
7	Note how the patient engages and if there seems to be rapport	
8	Observe the patient's level of eye contact	
9	Observe the patient's facial expressions	
10	Observe the patient's body language	
11	Identify any evidence of abnormal psychomotor activity (e.g. psychomotor retardation or restlessness)	
12	Note any abnormal movements or postures	
Speech		
13	Note the rate and quantity of the patient's speech	
14	Note the tone and volume of the patient's speech	
15	Note the fluency and rhythm of the patient's speech	
Mood and affect		
16	Explore the patient's current mood by asking appropriate questions	
17	Observe the patient's affect	
Thought		
18	Note the speed, flow and coherence of the patient's thoughts	
19	Explore the content of the patient's thoughts for abnormalities	
20	Ask about thought possession to screen for abnormalities	
Perception		
21	Explore the patient's current perception	
Cognition		
22	Formally assess the patient's cognition (e.g. AMTS, MMSE, ACE-III)	

Insight and judgement	
23	Assess the patient's current insight into their problems
24	Assess the patient's current judgement skills
Closing the consultation	
25	Ask the patient if they have any questions or concerns that have not been addressed
26	Thank the patient for their time
27	Dispose of PPE appropriately and wash your hands
Key communication skills	
28	Active listening
29	Summarising
30	Signposting

Read the full guide at [geekymedics.com](https://www.geekymedics.com)



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