



## OSCE Checklist: Palpitations History Taking

| 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 take a history from the patient  |  |
| 5                               | Gain consent to proceed with taking a history   |  |
| Presenting complaint            |   |  |
| 6                               | Use open questioning to explore the patient's presenting complaint  |  |
| History of presenting complaint |   |  |
| 7                               | Ask about the onset of the palpitations   |  |
| 8                               | Explore precipitating and relieving factors for the palpitations  |  |
| 9                               | Ask about the rate and rhythm of the palpitations   |  |
| 10                              | Ask about the duration and frequency of the palpitations  |  |
| 11                              | Ask about adverse clinical features associated with palpitations  |  |
| 12                              | Ask about symptoms associated with the palpitations   |  |
| 13                              | Explore the patient's ideas, concerns and expectations  |  |
| 14                              | Summarise the patient's presenting complaint  |  |
| Systemic enquiry                |   |  |
| 15                              | Screen for relevant symptoms in other body systems  |  |
| Past medical history            |   |  |
| 16                              | Ask if the patient has any medical conditions and specifically ask about pre-existing cardiovascular disease  |  |
| 17                              | Ask if the patient has previously undergone any surgery or procedures   |  |
| 18                              | Ask if the patient has any allergies and if so, clarify what kind of reaction they had to the substance   |  |
| Drug history                    |   |  |
| 19                              | Ask if the patient is currently taking any prescribed medications or over-the-counter remedies  |  |
| Family history                  |   |  |
| 20                              | Ask if there is any family history of cardiovascular disease and clarify at what age the cardiovascular disease developed                                     |  |
| Social history                  |   |  |
| 21                              | Explore the patient's general social context (accommodation, who the patient lives with, how the patient manages with activities of daily living, care needs) |  |

|                                 |  |  |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>22</b>                       | Take a smoking history   |  |
| <b>23</b>                       | Take an alcohol history  |  |
| <b>24</b>                       | Ask about recreational drug use  |  |
| <b>25</b>                       | Ask about diet and exercise  |  |
| <b>26</b>                       | Ask about the patient's occupation   |  |
| <b>27</b>                       | Ask if the patient drives  |  |
| <b>Closing the consultation</b> |  |  |
| <b>28</b>                       | Summarise the salient points of the history back to the patient and ask if they feel that you've missed anything |  |
| <b>29</b>                       | Thank the patient for their time   |  |
| <b>30</b>                       | Dispose of PPE appropriately and wash your hands   |  |
| <b>Key communication skills</b> |  |  |
| <b>31</b>                       | Active listening   |  |
| <b>32</b>                       | Summarising  |  |
| <b>33</b>                       | Signposting  |  |

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