



OSCE Checklist: Taking a Sexual History

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	
6	Confirm last menstrual period, gravidity and parity early on in the consultation	
Presenting complaint		
7	Use open questioning to explore the patient's presenting complaint	
Things to ask people with a vagina about		
8	Abdominal or pelvic pain	
9	Abnormal vaginal bleeding	
10	Abnormal vaginal discharge	
11	Dyspareunia	
12	Vulval skin changes and itching	
13	Systemic symptoms	
14	Menstrual history	
15	Past gynaecological history	
16	Obstetric history (current pregnancy)	
Things to ask people with a penis about		
17	Testicular pain or swelling	
18	Itching or sore genital skin	
19	Skin lesions	
20	Urethral discharge	
21	Dysuria	
22	Systemic symptoms	
Last sexual contact		
23	Timing of last sexual contact	
24	Consent	
25	Regular sexual partner vs casual sexual encounter	
26	Partner demographics	

27	Type of sex involved	
28	Contraception use	
29	Other sexual partners in the last 3 months	
HIV risk assessment		
30	Ask specifically about HIV risk factors to determine the patient's risk profile	
Past medical and surgical history		
31	Ask if the patient has any medical conditions	
32	Ask if the patient or any of their sexual partners have previously been diagnosed with a sexually transmitted infection	
33	Explore which immunisations the patient has previously received	
34	Ask if the patient has any allergies and if so, clarify what kind of reaction they had to the substance	
Drug history		
35	Ask if the patient is currently taking any prescribed medications or over-the-counter remedies	
Social history		
36	Explore the patient's general social context	
37	Take a smoking history	
38	Take an alcohol history	
39	Ask about recreational drug use	
40	Ask about diet, weight and occupation	
Closing the consultation		
41	Summarise the salient points of the history back to the patient and ask if they feel anything has been missed	
42	Thank the patient for their time	
43	Dispose of PPE appropriately and wash your hands	
Key communication skills		
44	Active listening	
45	Summarising	
46	Signposting	