



OSCE Checklist: Stroke and TIA 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	Assess the patient's ability to understand and communicate information	
8	Establish the onset time of the symptoms	
9	Ask about the severity of the symptoms	
10	Clarify the course of the symptoms	
11	Ask about potential precipitating factors	
12	Ask about associated symptoms	
13	Ask about previous episodes	
14	Ask the patient what their dominant hand is	
15	Perform focussed questioning to screen for key symptoms	
16	Explore the patient's ideas, concerns and expectations	
17	Summarise the patient's presenting complaint	
Systemic enquiry		
18	Screen for relevant symptoms in other body systems	
Past medical and surgical history		
19	Ask if the patient has any medical conditions including previous strokes/TIAs	
20	Ask if the patient has had any relevant surgical procedures	
21	Ask if the patient has any allergies and if so, clarify what kind of reaction they had to the substance	
Drug history		
22	Ask if the patient is currently taking any prescribed medications or over-the-counter remedies	
23	Ask about recent medication changes (e.g. new medications, recently stopped medications, dose changes)	
Family history		

24	Ask the patient if there is any family history of stroke or TIA	
Social history		
25	Explore the patient's general social context	
26	Take a smoking history	
27	Take an alcohol history	
28	Ask about recreational drug use	
29	Ask about diet and exercise	
30	Gather details about the patient's occupation and provide appropriate advice	
31	Enquire if the patient drives and provide appropriate advice	
Closing the consultation		
32	Summarise the salient points of the history back to the patient and ask if they feel anything has been missed	
33	Thank the patient for their time	
34	Dispose of PPE appropriately and wash your hands	
Key communication skills		
35	Active listening	
36	Summarising	
37	Signposting	

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



Download our
[clinical skills app](#)