



OSCE Checklist: Dermatological 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 | Site: ask about the location of the symptom | |
| 8 | Onset: clarify when the symptom first started and if it the onset was sudden or gradual | |
| 9 | Character: ask about the specific characteristics of the symptom | |
| 10 | Radiation: ask if the symptom moves anywhere else | |
| 11 | Associated symptoms: ask if there are any other associated symptoms | |
| 12 | Time course: ask how the symptom has changed over time | |
| 13 | Exacerbating or relieving factors: ask if anything makes the symptom worse or better | |
| 14 | Severity: ask how severe the symptom is on a scale of 0-10 | |
| 15 | Screen for other key dermatological 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 | |
| Travel history | | |
| 19 | Ask about travelling if relevant to the presenting complaint | |
| Past medical and surgical history | | |
| 20 | Ask if the patient has any medical conditions including previous back problems | |
| 21 | Ask if the patient has undergone any relevant surgical procedures | |
| 22 | Assess previous sun exposure | |
| 23 | Ask if the patient has any allergies and if so, clarify what kind of reaction they had to the substance | |

| Drug history | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 24 | Ask if the patient is currently taking any prescribed medications or over-the-counter remedies |
| Family history | |
| 25 | Ask the patient if there is any family history of dermatological disease |
| Social history | |
| 26 | Explore the patient's general social context |
| 27 | Take a smoking history |
| 28 | Take an alcohol history |
| 29 | Ask about recreational drug use |
| 30 | Gather details about the patient's occupation |
| Closing the consultation | |
| 31 | Summarise the salient points of the history back to the patient and ask if they feel anything has been missed |
| 32 | Thank the patient for their time |
| 33 | Dispose of PPE appropriately and wash your hands |
| Key communication skills | |
| 34 | Active listening |
| 35 | Summarising |
| 36 | Signposting |

Read the full guide at
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