



OSCE Checklist: Leg Swelling 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 if the leg swelling is unilateral (if so, which leg) or bilateral
8	Onset: clarify how and when the swelling developed
9	Character: ask about the specific characteristics of the leg swelling
10	Radiation: ask about the progression of the leg swelling
11	Associated symptoms: ask if there are other symptoms which are associated with the leg swelling
12	Exacerbating or relieving factors: ask if anything makes the leg swelling worse or better
13	Time course: clarify how the leg swelling changes over time
14	Explore the patient's ideas, concerns and expectations
15	Summarise the patient's presenting complaint
Systemic enquiry	
16	Screen for relevant symptoms in other body systems
Past medical history	
17	Screen for conditions that may be associated with leg swelling
18	Ask about other medical diagnoses and previous surgical history
19	Ask if the patient has any allergies and if so, clarify what kind of reaction they had to the substance
Drug history	
20	Ask if the patient is currently taking any prescribed medications or over-the-counter remedies
21	Ask if the patient if they're experiencing any side effects from their medication
Family history	
22	Ask if there is any family history of diseases relevant to leg swelling and clarify at what age the disease(s) developed (e.g. cardiovascular disease, venous thromboembolism)

Social history		
23	Explore the patient's general social context (accommodation, who the patient lives with, how the patient manages with activities of daily living, care needs)	
24	Take a smoking history	
25	Take an alcohol history	
26	Ask about recreational drug use	
27	Ask about fluid intake	
28	Ask about the patient's occupation	
Closing the consultation		
29	Summarise the salient points of the history back to the patient and ask if they feel that you've missed anything	
30	Thank the patient for their time	
31	Dispose of PPE appropriately and wash your hands	
Key communication skills		
32	Active listening	
33	Summarising	
34	Signposting	

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