



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 the confidential nature of the consultation	
5	Explain that you'd like to take a history from the patient	
6	Gain consent to proceed with taking a history	
Presenting complaint		
7	Use open questioning to explore the patient's presenting complaint	
Vaginal symptoms		
8	Abnormal vaginal discharge	
9	Vaginal bleeding	
10	Dyspareunia	
11	Abdominal and pelvic pain	
12	Vulval skin changes/itching/lesions	
13	Menstrual history	
14	Past gynaecological history	
15	Brief obstetric history (current pregnancy)	
Penile symptoms		
16	Urethral discharge	
17	Dysuria	
18	Testicular pain/swelling	
19	Penile skin changes/itching/lesions	
20	Penile swelling	
21	Abdominal and pelvic pain	
Rectal symptoms		
22	Rectal discharge	
23	Rectal pain	
24	Rectal lumps	
25	Anal skin changes/itching/lesions	

Oral symptoms	
26	Ask about oral sex and any oral symptoms (e.g. sore throat, ulcers)
Systemic enquiry	
27	Screen for relevant symptoms in other body systems including systemic symptoms of sexually transmitted infections (e.g. fever, malaise, weight loss, rashes)
Last sexual contact	
28	Timing of last sexual contact
29	Nature of sexual contact
30	Nature of relationship (regular or casual partner)
31	Contraception use
32	Other sexual partners (in the last 3 months)
33	STI testing history
Sexual violence & safeguarding	
34	Screen for sexual violence and other safeguarding issues
Blood borne virus risk assessment	
35	Ask about risk factors for blood borne viruses
36	Ask about immunisations (hepatitis A/B, HPV)
37	Ask about PEP and PrEP
Past medical history	
38	Ask if the patient has any medical conditions
39	Ask if the patient has any allergies and if so, clarify what kind of reaction they had to the substance
Drug history	
40	Ask if the patient is currently taking any prescribed medications or over-the-counter remedies
Social history	
41	Take a smoking history
42	Take an alcohol history
43	Ask about recreational drug use
44	Ask about sexual problems
Closing the consultation	
45	Summarise the salient points of the history back to the patient and ask if they feel anything has been missed
46	Thank the patient for their time
47	Dispose of PPE appropriately and wash your hands

Key communication skills		
48	Active listening	
49	Summarising	
50	Signposting	

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