

The ABIM Mini-CEX Clinical Evaluation Exercise

PRINT COPIES OF THE MINI-CEX

You can find a printable format of the Mini-CEX at <http://www.abim.org/pdf/paper-tools/minicex.pdf>. You may print out and distribute as many copies of the Mini-CEX as you need.

After completing the Mini-CEX, review the evaluation with the trainee and file the form into the trainee's program profile.

GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE MINI-CEX

The Mini-Clinical Evaluation Exercise (CEX) focuses on the core skills that trainees demonstrate in patient encounters. It can be easily implemented by attending physicians as a routine, seamless evaluation of residents in any setting. The Mini-CEX is a 15-20 minute direct observation assessment or "snapshot" of a trainee/patient interaction. Based on multiple encounters over time, this method provides a valid and reliable formative/summative assessment of trainees' performance. Attending physicians are encouraged to perform one mini-CEX per trainee during the rotation to document clinical competence in the six ACGME general competencies.

Settings to Conduct Mini-CEX

- In-patient services (CCU/ICU, Ward)
- Out-patient Clinic
- Emergency Department
- Other settings including admission and discharge

Mini-CEX Evaluators

- Attending Physicians
- Supervising Physicians
- Chief Residents
- Senior Residents

Rating Scale

A nine-point rating scale is used; a rating of 4, while classified as satisfactory, is defined as "marginal" and conveys the need for trainees to improve performance through program recommended remediation to ensure the trainee meets the requirements for board certification.

Descriptors of Competencies Demonstrated during the Mini-CEX

- **Medical Interviewing Skills:** Facilitates patient's telling of story; effectively uses questions/directions to obtain accurate, adequate information needed; responds appropriately to affect non-verbal cues
- **Physical Examination Skills:** Follows efficient, logical sequence; balances screening/diagnostic steps for problem; informs patient; sensitive to patient's modesty comfort
- **Humanistic Qualities/Professionalism:** Shows respect, compassion, empathy, establishes trust; attends to patient's needs of comfort, modesty, confidentiality, information
- **Clinical Judgment:** Selectively orders/performs appropriate diagnostic studies, considers risks, benefits
- **Counseling Skills:** Explains rationale for test/treatment, obtains patient's consent, educates/counsels regarding management
- **Organization/Efficiency:** Prioritizes; is timely; succinct
- **Overall Clinical Competence:** Demonstrates judgment, synthesis, caring, effectiveness, efficiency

MINI-COEX
CLINICAL
EVALUATION
EXERCISE

*attending
physicians'
mini-clinical
evaluation
exercise forms*



American Board
of Internal Medicine

Mini-Clinical Evaluation Exercise (CEX)

Evaluator: _____ **Date:** _____

Resident: _____ R-1 R-2 R-3

Patient Problem/Dx: _____

Setting: Ambulatory In-patient ED Other _____

Patient: Age: _____ Sex: _____ New Follow-up

Complexity: Low Moderate High

Focus: Data Gathering Diagnosis Therapy Counseling

1. Medical Interviewing Skills (Not observed)

1 2 3	4 5 6	7 8 9
UNSATISFACTORY	SATISFACTORY	SUPERIOR

2. Physical Examination Skills (Not observed)

1 2 3	4 5 6	7 8 9
UNSATISFACTORY	SATISFACTORY	SUPERIOR

3. Humanistic Qualities/Professionalism

1 2 3	4 5 6	7 8 9
UNSATISFACTORY	SATISFACTORY	SUPERIOR

4. Clinical Judgment (Not observed)

1 2 3	4 5 6	7 8 9
UNSATISFACTORY	SATISFACTORY	SUPERIOR

5. Counseling Skills (Not observed)

1 2 3	4 5 6	7 8 9
UNSATISFACTORY	SATISFACTORY	SUPERIOR

6. Organization/Efficiency (Not observed)

1 2 3	4 5 6	7 8 9
UNSATISFACTORY	SATISFACTORY	SUPERIOR

7. Overall Clinical Competence (Not observed)

1 2 3	4 5 6	7 8 9
UNSATISFACTORY	SATISFACTORY	SUPERIOR

Mini-CEX Time: Observing _____ Mins Providing Feedback: _____ Mins

Evaluator Satisfaction with Mini-CEX

LOW 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 HIGH

Resident Satisfaction with Mini-CEX

LOW 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 HIGH

Comments: _____

Resident Signature

Evaluator Signature