

# ENHANCING STUDENTS' CLINICAL COMPETENCY VIA OBJECTIVE STRUCTURED CLINICAL EXAMINATION (OSCE)



On 11th and 17th January 2024, the Department of Clinical Pharmacy (DoCP) conducted OSCE involving 173 fourth-year students as part of their continuous assessment for the courses PHC670 Community Pharmacy and PHC671 Applied Therapeutics in Infectious Diseases and Neoplastic Disorders. The four-station OSCE entails history-taking, drug-related problem identification and resolution, patient education, and care plan monitoring that spanned around 30 minutes. OSCE aims to evaluate students' clinical competency in providing optimal pharmaceutical care that requires them to employ analytical and critical thinking skills, effective communication skills, evidence-based practice, and professionalism. This performance-based examination complements the paper-and-pen examination ensuring a holistic and competent pharmacist graduate at the end of the Bachelor of Pharmacy program. This hands-on assessment method is crucial in preparing the students for their future careers and ensuring they are competent and confident in providing patient-centered care.

The OSCE assessed the students' ability to apply their knowledge and skills in a simulated clinical setting. Each station was carefully crafted to simulate different scenarios that the students may encounter in their future practice as pharmacists. In addition, OSCE evaluates students' ability to interact with patients, utilize scientific references and guidelines, provide drug information, and make appropriate clinical decisions.



As the roles of pharmacists evolve towards patient-centered care, OSCE is instrumental to evaluate and ensure our future pharmacists' capability is at par with the international standard. The OSCE served as a platform for students to demonstrate their clinical competency and identify the areas for improvement before they embark on their journey as pharmacists. By simulating real-life scenarios, OSCE allows students to practice their clinical skills in a controlled environment. This helps them gain confidence and prepares them for the challenges they may face in their professional careers. Additionally, the feedback provided after the OSCE allowed students to reflect on their performance and further enhance their knowledge and skills.

DoCP would like to take this opportunity to express our utmost gratitude to all the lecturers, simulated patients (postgraduate students), administrative staff, and lab staff for their invaluable assistance in the OSCE conduct.

Miss Nik Aisyah Najwa Nik Mustaffa Shapri  
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# PRESCRIPTION

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