What to Expect

EMERGENCY MEDICINE

ORAL EXAMINATION
What to Expect

- You will be presented with 5 cases - 2 singles and 1 triple, which may occur in any order.

- Single cases are 15 minutes, with a 15-minute break in between each one.

- Triple cases are 30 minutes, with a 30-minute break in between.

- Room Proctors will announce alerts to help you manage your time. Announcements will be made as follows:
  - Singles – 5 minutes remaining, **1 minute remaining**
  - Triples – you will be notified when 8, 16, 24 minutes have elapsed and when **2 minutes are remaining**.

- No credit will be given for any responses provided after time has been called.
There are three physician examiners at each testing station. Upon entering the room, you will be introduced to your examiners, who are also identified by their name badges.

- The most central examiner is the presenter with whom you will dialogue about the case. Ask questions of the presenter to get information about your patient.
- On either side of the presenter will be the raters, who are your advocates and will be recording your responses.
Testing Station

- You will have a workspace in front of the examiners with paper to make any necessary patient notes during the exam. All notes made will be collected at the end of each session.

- Do **NOT begin writing** on your note paper until the room timer says, “YOU MAY BEGIN.”

- Project your voice; speak clearly and loud enough for the raters to hear you. If the rater cannot hear you, you may be asked to repeat your statement.
During the Examination Session

- When the exam begins, you will be handed a summary with general information about the patient

Patient: Jane Doe

Summary: Patient hurt her ankle during an exercise class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Appearance:</td>
<td>Female lying on a gurney in mild distress.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vital Signs:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperature:</td>
<td>97.8°F (36.8°C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulse:</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Rate:</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood Pressure:</td>
<td>110/72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O₂ Saturation:</td>
<td>99% on room air</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight:</td>
<td>128 lbs. (58 kg)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height:</td>
<td>5'4&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medications:</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allergies:</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
During the Examination Session

- Receipt of the summary is your cue to begin managing the patient. Ask questions as you would of any patient.

- VERBALIZE YOUR THOUGHTS AND INTERPRETATIONS, AS YOU WILL BE SCORED ON THE INFORMATION YOU PROVIDE.

- BE SYSTEMATIC and thorough

- Make sure to obtain a History, Review of Systems, Physical Exam, Data, Management, Diagnosis, and Disposition.
  - Getting the diagnosis correct does not guarantee you will pass the case as there are scoring points in all the areas listed above.

- You may be required to interpret EKGs and radiology studies.
  - Be specific in your description.
During the Examination Session

- Your presenter may ask you “What specifically would you like to know?” to allow you to give more detail as an opportunity to garner scoring points.

- You may order any test or procedure, however, do not ask for “Trauma Panel” or “Cardiac Enzymes”. State specifically which tests you are ordering.

- Some test results may not be reported until a logical progression has occurred in the case. Go with the flow. You may ask again later for the results.

- If a test result or procedure is not available, try to think of an alternative care plan.

- If you get stuck, take a deep breath, check your notes and review your case OUT LOUD. This can help you reorganize and refocus. If you think of something else you would like to add, GO AHEAD and SAY IT.
During the Examination Session

- When you have finished the end of your case, if there is time remaining, the presenter may say, “Is there anything else you would like to do for this patient?”
  - This does not necessarily mean you have omitted something. It is an opportunity for you to add anything else you feel is important.

- If you have completed the case prior to the 1 minute warning for singles or the 2 minute warning for triples and you have stated that you are finished, the presenter will say: “This completes this case.” and you will be escorted from the testing zone.

- The examiners will not give you any feedback on your performance.

- Remember, while waiting, you may not discuss cases with others.

- At the CONCLUSION of your entire exam, we encourage you to take a moment to complete our exit survey, which is available at the check out desk. Your feedback will be used to make modifications and/or improvements to our examination process.