

Evaluation of clinical skills among final year medical students in a Family medicine course

Larisa Gavran¹

¹ Department of Family Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Corresponding author: Larisa Gavran; Address: Travnička cesta 1, Zenica 72000, Bosnia and Herzegovina; tel.: +387 32 401 555; E-mail address: gavranlarisa@yahoo.com ORCID ID: <http://www.orcid.org/0000-0001-6035-6496>

Introduction One of the four principles of Family medicine is that the Family physician needs to be skilled clinician. The focus of teaching Family medicine at Medical school should be to prepare the student to work as Family physicians with the wide range of common problems of patients in the community, and of less common but life-threatening and treatable emergencies in patients in all age groups. Their approach to health care need to be based on the best scientific evidence available.

Aim of this study was to identify deficits in clinical skills among final year medical students in Family medicine courses on Faculty of Medicine, University of Zenica in 2023.

Methods: All objective structured clinical examination (OSCE) sheets were collected and analyzed to evaluate the clinical skills component of the final examination 2023.

Results: A total of 16 OSCE sheets were evaluated with 6 practical scenarios. Achievement in of these practical scenarios of the students was: writing oral and parenteral prescriptions 85%; examination of the prostate on the model 62%; ear examination on the model 79%; sick leave management 75%; case report with analysis of electrocardiogram (ECG) abnormalities 71% and description of the ECG 73%. However, the students performances were most successful on writing prescriptions and ear examination in OSCE scenarios. Actually, more male than female students had a better performance in sick leave management with an average score of 1,5/2 maximum points vs. 1,4/2 on female students and on ECG analysis 2,7/3,3 man vs. 2,1/ 3,3 points of female. On the other hand female students were better in the prescribing practice of oral and parenteral drugs with an average score 1, 7/2 vs. 1, 6/2 for each question in the assignment.

Conclusion This analysis of practical skills performance on final OSCE exam among Family medicine students on Faculty of Medicine, University of Zenica, showed that there is room for improvement. However, the students showed good, very good but not excellent and outstanding practical knowledge that should have been acquire how on in other courses so on this Family medicine course in our University.

Key words Family medicine, OSCE exam, practical scenarios