



Candidates' Quick Guide to the ARTP Observed Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) in Performance of Spirometry

1. Introduction

As part of the ARTP spirometry competency programme you are required to perform a practical assessment of a spirometry test observed by an assessor.

2. OSCE structure

1. Introduction
 - a. The assessor will introduce themselves and run through the OSCE checklist, which you should have sent over prior to the examination date:
 - i. Have you completed the participant consent form?
 - ii. Confirm spirometer type/manufacturer
 - iii. How would you like to share your results with the assessor?
 - b. The assessor will run through the OSCE process
 - c. You will then have chance to ask any questions
2. Preparation of the environment
3. Preparation of the device
 - a. Calibration/verification
4. Prepare the patient
 - a. Measure height and weight
 - b. Explain the test to the patient
 - c. Demonstrate the test
5. Perform slow spirometry (adult only)
6. Perform forced spirometry
7. Share results with assessor
8. Technical questions regarding results and VIVA questions

3. Frequently asked questions

3.1. What does my OSCE exam consist of?

The OSCE exam consists of a practical performance of a spirometry test followed by a short VIVA of technical questions about the test.

3.2. Where will my assessment take place?

You will perform a spirometry test at your place of work using your own device. The assessor will observe via a Microsoft Teams or Zoom meeting link.

3.3. How long will my OSCE last for?

The OSCE session is 45 minutes which will include preparation of the environment, spirometer and patient, the performance and evaluation of the test and the technical VIVA question and answer session.

3.4. Do I need to test a patient?

You will need to recruit an adult subject to test but it is advised this be someone who does not have a known lung condition. The subject will be asked to sign a consent form to perform spirometry during the OSCE. They will not be required for all of the OSCE, only the performance of the test.

3.5. If I am undertaking the paediatric or joint adult/paediatric course do I need to test a child?

No, even those undertaking the paediatric course will be asked to use an adult, without any known lung conditions, to be the patient. The test should be conducted in the same manner as though you were testing a child and the VIVA will include questions on the differences in paediatric spirometry.

3.6. Will I receive my results on the day of the OSCE?

The assessor will not discuss the outcome of the OSCE with you during your assessment. Following the OSCE the assessor will complete the feedback and outcome form and send this back to ARTP administration. Once this has been processed and logged, this result will be released back to you. ARTP will endeavour to do this within **5 working days** of your OSCE.

3.7. Is my OSCE recorded?

Yes, all OSCE assessments are recorded and saved securely by ARTP. These are not routinely viewed but are stored should any queries arise from either the candidate or the assessor at a later date.

3.8. What do I do if some of the equipment needed for the test is not available in the room during my assessment?

ARTP understand that clinical spaces and equipment are in high demand and may not all be accessible or available at the time of assessment and endeavour to be as helpful as possible in these situations. It is mandatory for the spirometer and its calibration/verification syringe to be available at the time of assessment however the processes that require other equipment such as weighing scales, height stadiometer, cleaning equipment etc can be talked through verbally with assessor. If you have any queries about the availability of your equipment you should contact ARTP to clarify.

3.9. Are there any resources with more information about the OSCE process?

Yes, a comprehensive document is available on the ARTP website and via your spirometry portal. This contains an in-depth description on what is required in the OSCE, common issues people encounter as well as helpful resources on how to best prepare.

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