American Board of Internal Medicine

GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE MINI-CEX

The Mini-Clinical Evaluation Exercise (CEX) focuses on the core skills that residents 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 observation or "snapshot" of a resident/patient interaction. Based on multiple encounters over time, this method provides a valid, reliable measure of residents' performance. Attending physicians are encouraged to perform one mini-CEX per resident during the rotation. **To request copies of the Mini-CEX featured below, call ABIM at 215.446.3630.**

Settings to Conduct Mini-CEX:

- ◊ In-patient services (CCUIICU, Ward)
- ◊ Ambulatory
- ◊ ED
- ◊ Other including admission, discharge

Mini-CEX Evaluators:

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

Forms and Rating Scale:

- ◊ Packet includes 10 forms; after completing form, provide "original" to program director and "copy" to resident.
- ◊ Nine-point rating scale is used; rating of 4 is defined as "marginal" and conveys the expectation that with remediation the resident will meet the standards 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 comfort, modesty.
- ◊ 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-CEX

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