



Policy Title:
Narrative Assessment

Policy Identifier:
USCSOMC – UME – 1.25

Prepared by: Office of Undergraduate Medical Education	Creation Date: 3-5-24
Reviewed by: Curriculum Committee	Review Date: 10-15-24
Approved by: MD Program Policy and Procedures Committee	Effective Date: 10-21-24
Category: Undergraduate Medical Education	

LCME Standards

9.5 – Narrative Assessment

Scope

University of South Carolina (USC) School of Medicine Columbia faculty and students.

Policy Statement

Narrative Evaluations in the MI and MII Courses/Blocks. A Student Non-cognitive Performance Evaluation form is used to assess student performance in small groups or other instructional activities where professionalism and communication ability can be measured. Written narrative evaluations will be completed for individual students in courses or blocks where the individual contact time allows the faculty to provide an informed narrative assessment. Specifically, written narrative evaluations must be completed for any student who meets four or more times with the same faculty member or instructor in a setting of 12 or fewer students during the course or block. Faculty members, at the course or block director’s discretion, may provide written narrative assessments in situations not meeting the above criteria for group size or frequency, including for any students exhibiting extraordinary behavior (positive or negative) during a course or block. Any professionalism issues identified will be directed to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs.

Narrative Evaluations in M-III and M-IV Clerkships. All M-III and M-IV required clerkships will provide summative narrative evaluations of students’ performance. These narrative evaluations will address students’ knowledge, skills, attitudes, behaviors, practice-based learning and improvement, interpersonal and communication skills, systems-based practice, and appropriate aspects of professionalism. Narrative evaluations for electives are not required, but encouraged.

Reason for Policy

The LCME expects that a medical school ensures that a narrative description of a medical student’s performance, including non-cognitive achievement, is included as a component of the assessment in each required course, block and clerkship of the medical education program whenever teacher-student interaction permits this form of assessment.



Definitions

Narrative assessment: Written comments from faculty that assess student performance and achievement in meeting specific objectives of a course or clerkship, such as professionalism, clinical reasoning. (Element 9.5)

Contacts

Office of Undergraduate Medical Education

History

Date of Change	Change
3-5-24	Moved to current template