



Policy Title

Narrative Assessment

Identifier

UofSCSOMG – ACAF – 2.01

Prepared by: PEAS	
Reviewed by: Curriculum Committee	Review Date: 11/12/2020
Approved by: UofSCSOMG Policy Committee	Approval Date: 11/13/2020
	Effective Date: 11/13/2020

LCME Standards

9.5– Narrative Assessment

Scope

University of South Carolina (UofSC) School of Medicine Greenville faculty, staff, and students

Policy Statement

In all modules/clerkships where teacher-learner interaction provides such opportunities, narrative assessment will be provided to students. Narrative assessment can be formative or summative.

Teacher-student interactions considered sufficient to permit narrative assessment in the pre-clerkship years must include:

1. Mandatory sessions with four or more hours, throughout the course, with the same students and facilitator
2. Faculty-led small group discussions or small group work (eg. laboratory, simulation, case-based learning)

Any core module which contains the types of teacher-student interaction described above will use at least one narrative description of each medical student’s performance as a component of the assessment (formative or summative). Any approved competency may be used as the basis for this assessment. The assessment should be no more than 50 words in length for each student. Narrative assessment can be provided in pre-clerkship courses that do not meet the above criteria, provided the facilitator demonstrates interactions with all students that permit meaningful feedback.

In all clerkships, narrative assessment is provided as part of the mid-clerkship feedback. In addition, narrative

assessment is a required portion of the summative assessment for the clerkship. Summative narrative assessments will be submitted to the Office for Academic Affairs for inclusion in the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE).

Reason for Policy

LCME expects that a medical school ensures that a narrative description of a medical student's performance, including his or her non-cognitive achievement, is included as a component of the assessment in each required course 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)

Formative feedback: Information communicated to a medical student in a timely manner that is intended to modify the student's thinking or behavior in order to improve his or her subsequent learning and performance in the medical curriculum. (Element 9.7)

Procedures

In Biomedical science modules that meet the above criteria, students receive formative or summative narrative assessments at the end of the module.

In IPM 1 and 2, students receive formative narrative assessments in IPM skills sessions in a timely manner.

In IPM 1 and 2, summative narrative assessment is provided on the OSCE, small group faculty evaluations, and student reflections papers.

In clerkships, all faculty submit narrative descriptions of student performance in Oasis. Clerkship Directors provide narrative assessments during the mid-clerkship feedback session and summative narrative assessments at the end of the clerkship.

Completion of narrative assessment is monitored in the Biomedical Sciences modules by the Director of Pre-clerkship Curriculum, in IPM by the Director of IPM, and in Clerkships by the Director of Clerkship and Post Clerkship Curriculum.

Sanctions

Additional faculty development on providing narrative assessment as needed

Additional Contacts

Director of Assessment
PEAS

Related Information

UofSCSOMG – ACAF – 2.00 Grading System
UofSCSOMG – ACAF – 2.04 Formative Feedback

History

Date of Change	Change
November 2020	Clarified definition of teacher-learner interaction and identified areas for Narrative Assessment in pre-clerkship curriculum
November 2019	Policy created as part of LCME CQI process