



NIHS RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM

Program: Internal Medicine

Comprehensive Clinical Examination

Examination Format

- The NIHS Comprehensive Clinical Examination shall consist of 8-12 graded stations.
- You will encounter 1-2 examiners in each station.

Passing Score

- Each station shall be assigned a minimum performance level (MPL) based on the expected performance of a minimally competent candidate using a sound scientific standard-setting method such as regression analysis.
- To pass the examination, a candidate must attain a score equal to or more than the MPL in at least 70% of the number of stations or 70% within each competency/domain based on the final clinical examination structure.

Time Management

- The examiner is aware of how much material needs to be covered per station, and it is their responsibility to manage the time accordingly.
- The examiner will want to give you every opportunity to address all the questions within the station.
- They may indicate that "in the interests of time, you will need to move to the next question." This type of comment has no bearing on your performance. It is simply an effort to ensure that you complete the station.
- If you are unclear about something during the station, ask the examiner to clarify.
- Some stations may finish early – if this occurs, the examiner will end the encounter.





Examiner Professionalism

- The examiners have been instructed to interact with you professionally – don't be put off if they are not as warm and friendly towards you as usual.
- We recognize this is a stressful situation, and the examiner is aware that you are nervous. If you need a moment to collect your thoughts before responding, indicate this to the examiner.
- The nomination of examiners is based on the principle that candidates are assessed by qualified examiners selected and appointed by NIHS. The examiner is not obligated by any means to share their personal information or professional details with the candidate.

Conflict of Interest

- The examiners come from across the country. You will likely recognize some of them and may have worked with some of them in your center's clinical/academic capacity. This is completely acceptable to the NIHS and is not a conflict unless if the examiner had a substantial contribution to your training or evaluation, or if you have another personal relationship with the examiner.
- Identify the conflict at the moment of introduction; examiners have been instructed to do the same. Examiners will alert the NIHS staff – every attempt will be made to find a suitable replacement for the station.

Confidentiality

- Electronic devices are NOT permitted.
- Communication with other candidates during the evaluation is prohibited.





Definition of Clinical/Practical Skill Domains

| Domain | Definition |
|--|---|
| Data-Gathering Skills | Ability to obtain and identify important information and correlate the clinical data to recommend appropriate testing. It includes interviewing and history taking. |
| Reasoning and Analytical Skills | Ability to rationalize recommended effective management plans, evaluate alternative plans, and recognize indicators to different appropriate treatments based on relevant, correct clinical data interpretation. |
| Decision-Making Skills | Ability to formulate a logical diagnosis, identify immediate needs, and make accurate inferences regarding the expected outcomes. It includes recognizing potential complications, risks, and benefits. |
| Professional Attitude | The commitment to deliver the highest standards of ethical and professional behavior in all aspects of health practice. Attitudes, knowledge, and skills based on clinical &/or medical administrative competence, ethics, societal, & legal duties resulting in the wise application of behaviors that demonstrate a commitment to excellence, respect, integrity, accountability & altruism (e.g. self-awareness, reflection, life-long learning, scholarly habits, & physician health for sustainable practice). |





Blueprint Outline

| No. | Sections |
|-----|---------------------|
| 1 | Ambulatory Care |
| 2 | Cardiology |
| 3 | Critical care |
| 4 | Endocrinology |
| 5 | Gastroenterology |
| 6 | Hematology |
| 7 | Infectious Diseases |
| 8 | Nephrology |
| 9 | Neurology |
| 10 | Oncology |
| 11 | Pulmonary Diseases |
| 12 | Rheumatology |

Notes:

- Communication, Ethics, Professionalism, and Patient Safety are incorporated within various domains.

