

Summary

Encounter Cards

Purpose: Encounter cards were used to assess the clinical performance of obstetric and gynecology residents.¹

Method: During a rotation, residents across all years of training were asked to have six to eight patient encounters rated using encounter cards. The card was a pocket sized global rating form with four items that assessed knowledge, professional skills, manual skills, and overall performance, and a space for comments. Each item was rated on a seven-point scale. Faculty were required to observe the resident with a patient, complete the card, and then give feedback to the resident. The estimated duration of each encounter was from 15 to 30 minutes. Criterion validity was examined by correlating overall encounter card scores with scores from an OSCE and multiple-choice test. Generalizability analysis was conducted to determine the number of each type of form needed to obtain a reliability of 0.8.

1. Brennan BG, Norman GR. Use of encounter cards for evaluation of residents in obstetrics. *Acad Med.* 1997;72:S43-44.