

Objective Structured Assessment of Technical Skills (OSATS)
Sample Checklist

STATION 3

SMALL BOWEL ANASTOMOSIS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

You have just resected a segment of small bowel. Perform a single layer, interrupted, end to end anastomosis to restore continuity.

ITEM	Not Done or Incorrect	Done Correctly
1. Bowel oriented mesenteric border to mesenteric border, no twisting	0	1
2. Stay sutures held with hemostats	0	1
3. Selects appropriate needle driver (Gen surg, medtip/med or short length)	0	1
4. Selects appropriate suture (atraumatic, 3.0/4.0, PDS/Dexon/Vicryl/silk)	0	1
5. Needle loaded 1/2 to 2/3 from tip	0	1
6. Index finger used to stabilize needle driver	0	1
7. Needle enters bowel at right angles 80% of bites	0	1
8. Single attempt at needle passage through bowel 90% of bites	0	1
9. Follow through on curve of needle on entrance on 80% of bites	0	1
10. Follow through on curve of needle on exit on 80% of bites	0	1
11. Forceps used on seromuscular layer of bowel only majority of time	0	1
12. Minimal damage with forceps	0	1
13. Uses forceps to handle needle	0	1

14.	Inverting sutures	0	1
15.	Suture spacing 3 to 5 mm	0	1
16.	Equal bites on each side 80% of bites	0	1
17.	Individual bites each side 90% of bites	0	1
18.	Square knots	0	1
19.	Minimum three throws on knots	0	1
20.	Suture cut to appropriate length (does not interfere with next stitch)	0	1
21.	No mucosal pouting	0	1
22.	Apposition of bowel without excessive tension on sutures	0	1
MAXIMUM TOTAL SCORE			(22)
TOTAL SCORE			<input type="text"/>

EXAMINER _____

Note: Reprinted from the American Journal of Surgery, 180, Reznick R, Regehr G, MacRae H, Martin J, McCulloch W. Testing technical skill via an innovative “Bench Station” examination, 226-30, Copyright 1997, with permission from Excerpta Medica Inc.