

Paediatric Consultation Assessment Tool

Use *ONE* copy per consultation.

On this page, score the clinician's diagnostic and management skills, and give details of the consultation, the clinician and yourself.

Overleaf, make judgments about the skills the clinician uses to communicate with the child and his/her carers. Where indicated, and whenever the patient is able to contribute to the conversation, evaluate the skills used with child and parent/s *separately*. Score individual skills by filling in the boxes, then use these marks to guide your overall scores.

The overall scores will be used for analysis, but the information in the boxes will be used to give feedback to the clinician.

Content Skills

1=very poor, 7=very good

Comments

Content Skills	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Comments
Gathers relevant essential information								
Undertakes pertinent examination								
Generates appropriate diagnosis								
Formulates relevant management plan								

Consultation

Nature of consultation
Diagnosis / Diagnoses
Difficulty of case discussed during consultation
Age of child
Length of consultation (minutes)
Other people present (eg relatives, medical students, other health care professionals)
Other relevant information (eg use of equipment during consultation, interruptions, problems)
Consultation consecutive with one before

New	Follow-up	
Easy	Average	Difficult
Yes (details)		No
Yes (details)		No
Yes		No

Clinician

Seniority of clinician
Clinician trained in communication skills
Clinician known by observer

Cons	SpR	SHO	Other
Extensive	Some	None	
Well known	A little	No	

Observer

Seniority of observer
Observer a specialist in this condition
Observer trained in communication skills

Cons	SpR	SHO	Other
Yes		No	
Extensive	Some	None	

Overall performance with both parent/s and child: pass [] borderline [] fail []

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Process Skills

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Comments

Building the relationship							
Non-verbal skills: eye contact, open posture, avoids writing / reading							
Is empathetic and supportive – responds to family's predicament							
Appropriately engages child from the early stages of the consultation							

Building the relationship (parent/s): overall rating 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Building the relationship (child): overall rating 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Initiating the session							
Introduces self, clarifies role, determines who is present							
Identifies reasons for the consultation –the doctor's and family's							
Screens for other problems + negotiates the consultation's agenda							

Initiating the session (parent/s): overall rating 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Initiating the session (child): overall rating 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Gathering information							
Listens attentively, facilitating verbally and non-verbally							
Picks up and responds to verbal and non-verbal cues							
Appropriate questioning techniques (eg open→closed questions)							
Explores parent/child's ideas, concerns, feelings, expectations							

Gathering information (parent/s): overall rating 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Gathering information (child): overall rating 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Physical Examination							
Prepares for examination, such as by attending to privacy, toys							
Maintains rapport with the child throughout the examination							

Physical Examination: overall rating 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Explanation and Planning							
Tailors amount and type of information for parent/s and child							
Uses skills which aid recall and understanding							
Incorporates parent/child's perspective into explanation							
Involves parent/s and child in decision making							

Explanation and Planning (parent/s): overall rating 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Explanation and planning (child): overall rating 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Closure							
Establishes and clarifies next steps with parent/s and child							
Makes contingency plans							

Closure (parent/s): overall rating 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Closure (child): overall rating 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Structuring the interview							
Uses skills which provide structure (eg summarising, signposting)							

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Structuring the interview: overall rating 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Overall performance (parent/s) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Overall performance (child) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7