

Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (AFRM) 2022 Module 2 Clinical Assessment

The 2022 AFRM Module 2 Clinical Assessment was conducted at two sites on Saturday, 27 August 2022.

QLD: Gold Coast University Hospital
SA: Royal Adelaide Hospital

This document provides generic feedback from the examiners about candidate performance across the 2022 AFRM Module 2 Clinical Assessment. Candidates were examined across six (6) clinical stations and one (1) static station.

Station 1 and 11: Metabolic acidosis

Domain 1 Learning Objective 1.2.1	Plan and implement a realistic and appropriate rehabilitation program that is problem oriented, goal-driven, time-limited and directly addresses the needs and expectation of the patient and family
Domain 2 Learning Objective 2.5.1	Outline the basis and management of illness and injury in older people
Domain 2 Learning Objective 2.9.1	Recall basic knowledge of neurological disease

Candidates performed well in the following areas:

- Introduction
- CT Brain Interpretation
- Diagnosis of metabolic acidosis

Candidates performed poorly in the following areas:

- Differential diagnosis for clinical deterioration with metabolic acidosis

Other comments

- Please put only one answer per line.
- Writing mostly legible.
- Develop structure to interpret CT brain.
- Read the question.

Station 2 and 12: Parkinson disease

Domain 1 Learning objective 1.1.1	Describe the potentially disabling consequences of disease, disorders and injury
Domain 1 Learning objective 1.1.2	Determine the nature and extent of disability and activity limitation or participation restriction
Domain 2 Learning objective 2.5.2	Complete a comprehensive assessment that identifies disability resulting from illness and / or injury in old age and evaluate the potential for rehabilitation
Learning objective 2.9.2	Complete a comprehensive assessment of a patient with neurological disease and evaluate the potential for rehabilitation

Candidates performed well in the following areas:

- Introduction
- Hand hygiene
- Gait examination
- Upper limb examination
- General knowledge of areas required to examine

Candidates performed poorly in the following areas:

- Examination and knowledge of tremor
- Knowledge of medication causing secondary parkinsonism
- Medications to reduce motor fluctuations
- Proper exposure
- No mention of elbow contractures
- Poor pharmacological knowledge
- Poor verbalization / description of expected clinical findings
- Mixed up cogwheeling with other tonal changes

Other comments

- Candidates did not read the information sheet well.
- Candidates did not verbalize expected findings.
- Candidates tended to rush examination (especially gait and speech).
- Improve knowledge of progressive neurological conditions (Parkinson's and Parkinson plus) and how to differentiate them.

Station 4 and 14: Anaemia assessment

Domain 2 Learning objective 2.5.1	Outline and basis and management of illness and injury in older people
Domain 2 Learning objective 2.8.2	Complete a comprehensive assessment of a patient presenting with musculoskeletal disease or injury, and evaluate the potential for rehabilitation

Candidates performed well in the following areas:

- Causes for hypoxia and factors for anaemia
- Transfusion complications
- Identifying additional tests for anaemia

Candidates performed poorly in the following areas:

- Some candidates lack adequate broad knowledge about investigations for anaemia and transfusion reactions
- Interpretation of iron studies and reasoning for giving or withholding iron transfusion
- Investigation for anaemia – most candidates did not identify haemolysis as a possibility
- Transfusion reaction – poorer candidates did not adopt a systematic approach

Other comments

- Candidates need to speak up.
- Candidates need to speak to role player as they would an intern, not a patient.
- Improve knowledge on investigations for anaemia.
- Listen to the question – for example, reasoning and management are not required for Question 1.

Station 5 and 15: Stroke

Domain 1 Learning objective 1.1.1	Describe the potential disabling consequences of disease, disorders and injury
Domain 2 Learning objective 2.9.4	Assess and manage the rehabilitation of a patient with cerebrovascular disease

Candidates performed well in the following areas:

- Interpretation of CT scan
- Communication skills
- Investigation of stroke
- Prevention of stroke
- Understanding of roles of clinical and neuropsychology

Candidates performed poorly in the following areas:

- Some candidates interpreted imaging poorly confused ischaemia with bleed
- Knowledge of NIHSS and MRS
- Investigation pertinent to young stroke
- Understanding of link between alcohol and hypoglycaemia

Other comments

- Pay attention to the stem and questions.
- Be specific with answers – address the questions asked.

Station 7 and 17: Diabetic neuropathy

Domain 1 Learning objective 1.1.1	Describe the potential disabling consequences of disease, disorders or injury
Domain 1 Learning objective 1.4.1	Promote preventive strategies with regard to diseases or injuries that may cause significant disability

Candidates performed well in the following areas:

- Introduction
- Vascular examination
- Sensory examination
- Identification of peripheral neuropathy

Candidates performed poorly in the following areas:

- Causes of peripheral neuropathy
- Understanding of medications for diabetes and neuropathic pain

Other comments

- Read stem carefully.
- Inspection of patient should be specific to context and not spend too much time.
- Avoid repeating answers.
- Have a structure to your examination.
- Attending diabetic foot clinic would be beneficial.

Station 8 and 18: Cardiac examination

Domain 2 Learning objective 2.1.1	Recall basic knowledge of cardiac disease
Domain 2 Learning objective 2.1.2	Complete a comprehensive assessment of a patient presenting with cardiac disease and evaluate potential for rehabilitation

Candidates performed well in the following areas:

- Communication
- Building rapport
- Cardiac examination

Candidates performed poorly in the following areas:

- Examination tended to be cursory given no abnormal findings expected
- Examination not specific to cardiac failure
- Understanding of high output cardiac failure
- Understanding of NYHA classification and prognostication
- Knowledge of medications for cardiac failure management

Other comments

- Time management in examination – some candidates ran out of time.

Station 9 and 19: Back (lumbosacral) examination

Domain 1 Learning objective 1.1.2	Determine the nature and extent of disability and activity limitation or participation restriction
Domain 2 Learning objective 2.2.2	Complete a comprehensive assessment of a patient presenting with chronic pain and determine the potential for rehabilitation

Candidates performed well in the following areas:

- Introduction
- Specific tests
- Examination of range of motion
- Building rapport

Candidates performed poorly in the following areas:

- Systematic approach
- Knowledge of red and yellow flags
- Palpation of lumbar spine
- Gait and squat

Other comments

- Candidates tended to rush examination.
- A systematic approach would be beneficial.