

Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine

Narrative Assessment Policy

Approved by: Medical Education Committee

Approved: Jul. 14, 2016
Revised: Jun 13, 2017, Jan 10, 2018,
Jun 13, 2024

Purpose

This policy relates to LCME Element 9.5, which states: "... a narrative description of a medical student's performance, including his or her non-cognitive achievement, is included as a component of the assessment in each required course and clerkship of the medical education program whenever teacher-student interaction permits this form of assessment."

The policy is guided by Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine's medical education program objectives MEPOs:

- Demonstrate clinical skills and diagnostic reasoning needed for patient care (Clinical Skills and Diagnostic Reasoning)
- Effectively communicate with patients, families, colleagues and interprofessional team members (Communication)
- Practice relationship centered care to build therapeutic alliances with patients and caregivers (Patient Centered Care)
- Exhibit skills necessary for personal and professional development needed for the practice of medicine (Personal and Professional Development).

Policy

The curriculum must provide students with opportunities to receive narrative assessments on their performance in the domains listed above and to advance student performance in these domains to prepare them for clinical practice.

- During the pre-clerkship curriculum: Students will receive narrative assessment of their behavior, communication skills, professionalism, and life-long learning in the doctoring courses. Students will also receive narrative assessment in any non-doctoring preclinical course in which students have four or more sessions in a small group of 12 or fewer students with the same instructor at each session.
- During the clerkship curriculum: Students will receive narrative assessment in all core clerkships. These assessments will address cognitive and non-cognitive domains and encompass all competency domains relevant to the clerkship phase.

Monitoring

Compliance with the narrative assessment policy is monitored by the medical education office and reviewed annually by the MEC.

Relevant LCME Element(s): 9.5 Narrative Assessment