Direct Observation Contact Lens Assessment

Year 2024-2025

The purpose of the Stage 2 Assessment is to evaluate the trainee in line with expectations for an entry into the profession.

A borderline candidate throughout may still perform sufficiently well to pass.

Multiple borderline observations falling into a single reason for failure should be considered a fail.

Overarching reasons for failure

- failure to detect, recognise or act upon significant symptoms, history or clinical signs

- compromised patient safety by action, inadequate record keeping and/or management

- a deficiency in technique which could lead to significantly inappropriate management

Unit of Competence 2: Professional Conduct			
Competency	**Clear Pass**	**Borderline*** ***SEE NOTES AT THE END**	**Fail**
The ability to comply with the legal, ethical and professional aspects of practice. Including but not limited to: **2.1.1** Adheres to health and safety policies in the practice including the ability to implement appropriate measures for infection control. **2.2.4** Creates and keeps full, clear, accurate and contemporaneous records	1. Consistent Demonstrations with hygiene relating to instrumentation, contact lenses, disposal of clinical waste 2. Is able to produce records which are legible and contain all relevant patient details, measurements, results and advice	EXAMPLES (NOT EXHAUSTIVE): 1. Has used inappropriate abbreviations to record clinical details 2. Handwriting is difficult to read 3. Did not record management and advice 4. Single incidence of poor hygiene demonstrated	1. Has not recorded details of several significant tests performed 2. Recorded information that was not carried out 3. Illegible records 4. Poor hygiene demonstrated consistently 5. Poor infection control potentially impacting patient safety. (Please note – assessor should intervene if there is an immediate risk to patient) 6. Safety of patient compromised requiring assessor intervention

Unit of Competency 3: Methods of ocular examination			
Competency	**Clear Pass**	**Borderline*** ***SEE NOTES AT THE END**	**Fail**
The ability to perform an examination of the eye and related structures. Including but not limited to: **3.1.7** Assesses the tear film **3.1.2** Uses the slit lamp to examine the external eye and related structures	1.Chooses appropriate instrumentation and uses correct and safe methods to assess tear quantity and quality 2. Accurately records the results and differentiates normal from abnormal 3. Demonstrates a full slit-lamp routine for the assessment of the external eye and related structures in a logical sequence 4. Demonstrates the methods of illumination, filters and other attributes of the slit lamp and their uses Examines: 1. the external eye and adnexa 2. lids 3. lashes	EXAMPLES (NOT EXHAUSTIVE): 1. Assesses the tear quantity or quality and not both 2. Fails to record one aspect of the assessment of the tear film 3. Tear film assessment is not accurate 4. Does not change magnification 5. Does not check upper lid with it closed 6. inaccurate grading of external eye/related structures 7. Misses a small to medium longstanding corneal scar 8. Fails to use a range of different illumination techniques	1. Fails to examine the tear film or chooses an unsafe, incorrect or inappropriate method to assess the tear film 2. Misses obvious abnormal tear film signs 3. Fails to examine or record one or more of the following: • the external eye • lids (including performing a lid eversion in white and blue light) • lashes • all parts of the cornea in both eyes with white and blue light • bulbar conjunctiva

			• palpebral conjunctiva 4. Hurts the patient by hitting/ poking them with equipment or pulling hard on eye structures 5. Missed obvious pathology such as red eye or significant corneal staining

Unit of Competence 5: Contact Lenses			
Competency	**Clear Pass**	**Borderline*** ***SEE NOTES AT THE END**	**Fail**
The ability to manage the fitting and aftercare of patients with contact lenses. Including but not limited to: **5.1.1** Chooses fits and orders soft lenses **5.2.1** Manages the aftercare of patients wearing soft lenses	1.Demonstrates an understanding of the range of soft lens materials and designs available 2. Makes the appropriate choice of soft lens parameters 3. Assesses the fit of lenses using a variety of techniques 4.Makes appropriate adjustment of lens for best fit	EXAMPLES (NOT EXHAUSTIVE): 1. Selects a lens with a BOZR more than 1.2 mm from K readings or a TD more than 3mm greater than HVID (if this is not possible in a trial bank, then failure to articulate this) 2. Insertion or removal of the lens takes numerous attempts	1. Fails to make an appropriate choice of lens design and materials for the patient. 2. Fails to safely insert or remove the lens 3. Fails to establish correct overall fit of the lens 4. Fails to adjust the lens if appropriate to do so

NB This will always include the Assessor directly observing the trainee insert and remove the CL from the patient's eye DO should include an initial assessment of the patient's suitability for CL wear (by the Assessor) and assessment of the eye for trauma post fitting (by the Trainee)	5.Writes an appropriate order for a soft lens 6. Demonstrates an understanding of the content and routine of a soft CL aftercare consultation and carries out the relevant tests and assessments which are required in a routine soft lens aftercare consultation. This is comprised of: • patient assessment e.g. reason for visit (presenting complaint), history and symptoms • visual assessment • fit assessment • tissue assessment – with and without fluorescein • condition of CL (monthly/ bi-weekly lenses only) 7. Demonstrates an understanding of soft lens adaptation and aftercare issues and how to manage them i.e. Providing advice: • addressing presenting complaint, communicating	3. Poor assessment of the fit of the lens – either in the technique or in the evaluation 4. Fails to write an accurate contact lens specification for a soft lens 5. Fails to ask appropriate questions to obtain a full history of contact lens wear and associated history that may impact on contact lens wear 6. Does not check the condition of the contact (monthly/ bi-weekly lenses only) lens and/or fails to record it 7. Does not detect, identify or record corneal staining when present 8. Fails to advise the patient of any other examination required if not up-to-date e.g. next eye exam etc.	5. Fails to stain or does not detect, identify or record significant corneal staining when present 6. Fails to include all of the following assessments: • patient assessment e.g. reason for visit (presenting complaint), history and symptoms (and associated symptoms) • fit assessment • tissue assessment – with and without fluorescein 7. Inaccurate assessment of fit of contact lens and/or of tissue assessment in both the fit and aftercare 8. Fails to provide advice on one or more of the following: • complying with appropriate lens handling, care regimes and hygiene

	cause and remedy of complaint including action to be taken and review date. • advise need of any other examination if not up-to-date e.g. next eye exam etc. • complying with appropriate lens handling, care regimes and hygiene requirements throughout • advise on the management of common CL complications		requirements throughout • advise on the management of common CL complications if needed 9. Provides advice that is confusing or inaccurate 10. Provides advice to the patient that would be considered dangerous 11. Uses a technique that could cause an injury on insertion or removal

* BORDERLINE NOTES:

- *If a trainee provides a borderline answer to a question, or performs a technique in a borderline manner, then the assessor is able to still pass the trainee overall.*

- *If a trainee provides two or three borderline answers to questions or to techniques, the assessor needs to use appropriate judgement as to whether this is still a pass level overall performance.*

- *If a trainee provides four or more borderline answers to questions or with techniques, this would be an overall fail.*