

Policy on Provision of Narrative Description

OBJECTIVE

To ensure that faculty provide meaningful narrative description and feedback to medical students regarding their achievement of learning objectives in non-cognitive domains including, but not limited to problem-solving, communication skills, and professionalism.

LCME ELEMENT – 9.5 Narrative Assessment

A medical school ensures that a narrative description of a medical students' 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.

SCOPE & APPLICABILITY

Narrative description must be provided for all courses and clerkships that are four weeks in duration or longer, where instructor-student interactions permits this kind of assessment.

- All clerkships are required to provide narrative description of learners' performance.
- Narrative description is required for courses where the structure allows for longitudinal observation of individual students' performance in non-cognitive learning objectives by faculty. Faculty who interact with students individually or in small groups for at least 10 sessions are required to provide narrative description.

POLICY

- Narrative description of medical students' performance, particularly in non-cognitive domains, must be included as a component of the assessment in each required course and clerkship where instructor-student interaction permits this form of assessment.
- Narrative description must include a summative component (description of the medical student's achievement of or failure to achieve the course/clerkship non-cognitive learning objectives) and a formative component (areas in need of improvement and opportunities for academic and professional growth).
- Although provision of narrative description can be conducted verbally, documentation is required via OASIS or other approved mechanism such as Blackboard or email for monitoring and archival purposes and, in the case of summative assessment on clerkships, accessibility for inclusion in the Medical Student Performance Evaluation.

COMPLIANCE MONITORING

- The Office of Assessment and Quality Improvement will submit a report, which documents the percentage of students who received formative and summative narrative description in those course/clerkships that use OASIS for documentation, to the Council on Curriculum annually.

- Courses that use an alternative method for providing narrative description must submit a report, which documents the percentage of students who received formative and summative narrative description along with the actual narrative descriptions provided, to the Council on Curriculum annually.

POLICY ADMINISTRATION

Responsible for policy: **Council on Curriculum**

Responsible for tracking compliance: **Office of Assessment and Quality Improvement**

Date policy passed: **06/12/2017**

Date most recent policy update: **N/A**

Date of next review: **06/2020**