Challenges of Assessment of Clinical Performance

For many reasons, assessment in medical education is difficult and can be especially challenging in the clinical setting.

Challenges of Producing Written Evaluations of Clinical Performance

Limited time… limited direct observation… multiple preceptors… weighting criteria… developmental levels… difficulty giving negative feedback… influence of a student’s personality or her desire to pursue a career in family medicine…. These were all issues generated by teaching faculty at our recent What is Honors? faculty development workshop.

A 2007 article in the New England Journal of Medicine presented strengths and limitations of assessments by supervising clinicians. Some of these will look familiar. But, when used in conjunction with written exercises, multi-source assessments, and clinical simulations, we are able to provide valid assessments of a student’s performance.

Future faculty development efforts will focus on some of these challenges. Stay tuned…

References / Resources: