

Undergraduate Student Feedback on OSCE: The First Experience of a Nutrition Department, University of Benghazi 2019

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Introduction: Introduction: The Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) is becoming more widespread within healthcare education programmes, because it is considered as a suitable method for assessing skills and underpinning knowledge essential for practice¹. In addition, the OSCE is a very different experience for the students, in which students establish their competence under a multiple of simulated conditions in contrast to more traditional methods of assessment such as writing essay, multiple choices. The aim of this study was to assess the third year nutrition student's perception about the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) in the clinical nutrition practice.

Methods: All the undergraduate students (n=120) who enrolled in third year of nutrition were invited to take part in this study. During the conducting OSCE exam, the students were asked to complete feedback questionnaire before they left the session of the exam. SPSS was used to analysis the data.

Results: Around 80% of students indicated that OSCE exam was designed fairly and organized properly and about 78% of them reported the exam covers a wide area of knowledge about nutrition practice. In regarding the instruction of OSCE exam, most of students (74%) indicated that they were received adequate information about exam before conducting it, and about 72% of students reported that the instructions of each station were as expected. The most factors that facing student during conducting OSCE exam were stressful and time that conducted at each station. The majority of students were agree with OSCE exam is practical and useful experience, OSCE scores provide true measure of essential clinical skills of undergraduate nutrition students, and OSCE scores are standardized, 87%, 86% , and 83% respectively.

Conclusions: This study concluded that the structure and design OSCE exam were clear, organized and most of students received adequate information before conducting the exam. Almost of students agreed with the OSCE exam is the useful experience to improve their practical skills in clinical nutrition. The current study recommended that the OSCE exam is important method of assessment should be conducted in practical academic year of the study.

Key Words: University students, nutrition, assessment tool, OSCE exam, students 'opinion, students 'feedback