

8th International Medical Workforce Collaborative

“Performance Assessment and
Quality of Care: The Clinical
Assessment Examination”

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History of Clinical Skills Assessment

*James A. Hallock, M.D.
President and CEO
Educational Commission for
Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG)
Philadelphia, PA*

Role of ECFMG

- Certifies IMGs Entering PGME in US
- Credentials Verification
 - Diploma
 - Transcript
 - Primary Source
- Registration for USMLE Step 1, Step 2 CK and Step 2 CS

History of Clinical Skills Assessment

ECFMG

- 1982 development to present

NBME

- 1962 clinical exam halted
- Multiple committees and research into clinical skills

ECFMG CSA

- Introduced in 1998 to assess IMGs' clinical skills/knowledge at a level comparable to graduates of US and Canadian schools accredited by LCME and their ability to:
 - gather and interpret clinical patient data
 - communicate effectively in spoken and written English

ECFMG CSA 1982-1987

- Planning and research to develop a hands-on assessment of clinical skills
- Concern regarding clinical training around the world
- First pilot examination of 117 IMGs in 1985
- Larger pilot study of 635 IMGs revealed deficiencies in performance

ECFMG CSA 1987-1990

- Concept approved to add CSA requirement to the ECFMG Certification process
- Development of content domain
- Clinical encounter list developed and circulated to Residency Program Directors

ECFMG CSA 1990-1994

- Piloting of ECFMG CSA in several sites in US
- Basic validity and reliability of CSA determined
- Plans to establish a CSA test center
- July 31, 1994: ECFMG Board of Trustees voted to establish CSA as a requirement for ECFMG Certification

ECFMG CSA 1998-2004

- 45,000 examinees
- 450,000 case encounters
- High-stakes examination conducted and proven valuable

CS Examination 2002-2004

- Discussions with NBME
- NBME & FSMB (USMLE parents) decide to incorporate CS requirement into USMLE as part of Step 2
- ECFMG & NBME agree to administer CSE

CS Examination

- 5 centers include Philadelphia, Atlanta, Chicago, Houston and Los Angeles
- All physicians seeking licensure in US
- Replaces TOEFL for IMGs
- Three-part holistic examination measures spoken English proficiency, communication/interpersonal skills, data-gathering skills, including history taking and physical examination, and a patient note