

1) What differences do you note between the two H&P's?

- One big difference I noted between the two H&P's was the detail in the HPI section. My second HPI included more important pertinent information regarding the patient. My second HPI also had a better flow to it overall. It read more like a story than the first HPI. Another difference in the H&Ps were the physical exams. We learned more physical exams by the time I was writing my second H&P so there were more physical exams included on the 2nd.

2) In what ways has your history-taking improved? Are you eliciting all the important information?

- My history taking has felt more natural since the hospital visits as well as being in clinical correlations class. After taking a patient's history various times now, I don't forget any parts of OLDCARTS which was something I struggled with early on. The questions I am asking are more relevant to the patient and I know how to work off previous questions asked. Getting a thorough history is vital to helping diagnose/treat patients and it is something I want to perfect. It is important to not miss any parts of the history as one small detail can change a clinician's approach to diagnosing and treating the patient.

3) In what ways has writing an HPI improved?

- The most obvious difference that I noticed comparing my HPI's was the flow. The 2nd HPI I wrote reads way better than my original. In my opinion, my 2nd HPI paints a better picture of the patient's complaints and current status compared to my 1st HPI. Even though I got graded the same score between the two HPI's according to the rubric the second HPI was more complex and was more organized.

4) What is your self-assessment of your current skill in performing physical exam? Which areas do you feel strongest about/weakest about?

- My ability to perform physical exams greatly improved from my first hospital visit to my last. I feel comfortable and confident in most of the physical exam, but still want to work on recognizing abnormalities in both the heart and lung exam. As I continue to practice and perform physical exams in the future, I will improve my capabilities. Repetition is fundamental into feeling confident and able to perform physical exams.

5) Of course we expect you to get stronger in all areas, but which of the specific areas will you target as needing particular focus in future patient visits when you start the clinical year?

- One thing I want to particularly focus on in the future is building a good relationship with patients. I think creating a comfortable setting for patients to express their concerns and gain trust within their provider is the hardest challenge of being a clinician. Every patient is different and it takes a certain skill to be able to connect with each patient and create a welcoming environment.