

*SUBJECT AND CURRICULUM REFERENCE:*

**Lumbar puncture**

- *Medical expertise*
- *communication*

*Length:* 10 minutes

*CLINICAL SCENARIO STEM:*

Kane is a 27yo man with a fever, headache and vomiting, and has suspected bacterial meningitis. He has been unwell for 24 hours. He is usually in excellent health, has no chronic illness, allergies and is not on any prescribed medications.

*INSTRUCTIONS:*

Please can you perform a lumbar puncture on Kane. He does not have any known contraindications to prevent this procedure being performed. He has been fully consented.

**Candidate**

You will be performing the lumbar puncture on a part task trainer. Consent has been obtained. You can communicate with Kane during the procedure, a standardised patient will provide the responses

**Role player - patient:**

Engage in conversation initiated by candidate. Keep responses to a minimum, acknowledging information regarding the procedure that is provided by the candidate

**Role player - assistant:** provide assistance to candidate. This will centre around providing and opening equipment as requested, keeping the procedure sterile.

**Examiner:** provide all equipment, part task trainer

**Assessment criteria**

- positioning of patient, sitting or lying, candidates choice. Flexion of lumbar spine, flexion of neck
- Demonstrate landmarks, mark site for LP
- Sterile preparation of equipment, work area, sterile gowning and gloving
- Explain all steps to patient in real time
- Sterile skin prep, drape
- Administer LA
- Needle insertion
- Collection of fluid
- Occlusive dressing over LP site.
- If difficulties drawing fluid, allow candidate to reposition, attempt at another level.