

### Information for OSCE candidates

The aim of the OSCE is to ensure that you have the communication and practical skills required to perform to the standard required by the Newborn Hearing Screening Programme. This information is to help you prepare for the OSCE.

Please ensure your hands/nails are as your local infection control department describes i.e. nails should be short and no jewellery (plain wedding band type rings are accepted) no clothing/jewellery below the elbow.

If you wear a uniform to screen and wish to wear it for the OSCE please do so.

Throughout the exam the babies are dolls, please treat them/handle them as you would a real baby.

The parents are actors/actresses, please treat them as you would real parents, they will ask you appropriate questions which you should answer. They will award marks which go towards your overall score for family friendliness/understanding/feeling involved.

Examiners are there to support and encourage you. They will be positive, objective and friendly but neutral.

Examiners are experienced, specially trained NHSP local managers/co-ordinators and senior screeners.

You will have an opportunity to demonstrate your skills in the OSCE area.

You will only be expected to demonstrate what you have learnt via the eLearning units and practiced within your local NHSP site.

All the tasks and their objectives are detailed in this information.

There are no trick situations intended to trip you up.

Talking to other candidates is not permitted during the OSCE.

Mobile phones must be switched off during the OSCE.



There will be an OSCE organiser available on the day to help you through the system and offer any support you may require.

Occasionally external visitors may observe OSCE examinations. They should not interfere or distract candidates during the OSCE.

There are a total of 10 stations. All stations must be visited.

You will start at an allocated station.

Outside each station will be brief instructions relating to the required task.

Clearly give/record your name and eLearning screener number at each station.

Each station will take 6 minutes.

After 5 minutes a verbal signal will indicate 'one minute to go'.

After 6 minutes a further verbal signal will indicate 'please move to next station'.

Move on immediately at the 6 minute signal, even if the task has not been finished.

Do not move on before the 6 minute signal.

Wait quietly outside your next station.

Never jump a station.

### **Station 1: Anatomy**

Objective: to recognise and identify the anatomy of the ear.

This is an unmanned station, there will be no examiner observing you.

The invigilator will give you an answer sheet. Ensure your name is written on it.

You will be given a diagram of the ear which has lettered labels on it.

On your answer sheet write the name of the ear part next to the corresponding letter.

Just before the 6 minutes are up the invigilator will return to you to collect your completed answer sheet.

Wait in the station until you are told to move to the next station.

## **Station 2: Rest station**

Objective: to take a break from the concentration required at the other OSCE stations.

This is an unmanned station, there will be no examiner observing you.

Go directly to the designated rest area. Water and biscuits are provided.

Please sit quietly at the rest station, there may be other candidates in the rest station.

## **Station 3: AOAE earpiece placement and AOAE equipment checks**

Objective: to demonstrate your practical clinical skills in correct ear canal manipulation and placement of the AOAE earpiece. To demonstrate knowledge of equipment checks as per NHSP protocols.

You are expected to carry out the procedures to NHSP protocol and as shown in unit 4 of the NHSP eLearning screener module.

This is a manned station, there will be an examiner observing you.

You will use an AOAE earpiece/lead similar to that used in your local NHSP site.

Handle and position the doll the same way you would a baby.

You may be asked to explain to the examiner exactly what you are doing as you go through each procedure.

You are expected to talk through the manipulation of the ear canal for AOAE earpiece placement as the doll does not have pliable ears.

Place the AOAE earpiece in the ear of the doll as per NHSP guidelines for your local AOAE system, given and shown in unit 4 of the NHSP eLearning Screener Module.

Position the AOAE cable correctly.

You will be asked questions relating to the NHSP protocol routine checks associated with the AOAE screening equipment.

You will be asked to demonstrate how you would clean the equipment.

#### **Station 4: Obtaining informed consent & ascertaining family history**

Objective: to gain informed consent to screen by explaining the NHSP screen, ascertaining family history and explaining the use of data within NHSP.

The scenario on this station is flexible to meet the needs of all screeners.

**Hospital screening programme:** Mother and baby are in patients in the maternity hospital.

**Community screening programme SCBU/NICU screener:** Baby is on the unit and Mother is present.

**Community screening programme, well baby screener:** This is your first visit to the home.

This is a manned station, there will be an examiner who will observe you.

Give your name to the examiner.

There will be a parent (actor) present who will have already have seen the booklet 'Screening tests for you and your baby'.

Introduce yourself to the parent (actor) and fully explain the NHSP screen procedure. Ascertain if there is a family history (this parent does not have a family history of hearing loss)

Explain the use of data within the NHSP

Establish if the parent would like their baby's hearing to be screened.

Remember to check understanding and allow for questions.

Answer any questions appropriately.

You will be expected to use the NHSP documentation associated with ascertaining a family history; unless other documentation is used locally\*.

Documentation provided on this station:

- a) NHSP Family History Questionnaire. b) NHSP Family History Tree.

#### **Station 5: Multiple choice questions**

Objective: To assess understanding of the screen as described in NHSP eLearning screener module.

This is an unmanned station, there will be no examiner observing you.

The invigilator will give you an answer sheet. Please ensure your name is written on it.

There are 12 multiple choice questions.

Read the questions carefully and circle which is the correct answer next to the corresponding question number on your answer sheet.

Just before the 6 minutes are up the invigilator will return to you to collect your completed answer sheet.

Wait in the station until you are told to move to the next station.

### **Station 6: AABR sensor placement and AABR equipment checks**

Objective: to demonstrate your practical clinical skills in skin preparation, correct placement of AABR sensors, headphones and cables and safe removal of AABR sensors and headphones.

This is a clinical skills stations, you will be marked on your ability to demonstrate your practical skills. It is a manned station, which means there will be an examiner who will observe you.

Give your name to the examiner.

Handle and position the doll the same way you would a baby.

You may be asked to explain exactly what you are doing as you go through each procedure.

You are expected to carry out the procedures to NHSP protocol and as shown in unit 4 of the NHSP eLearning screener module.

### **Station 7: Rest station**

Same as station 2

## **Station 8: Screen outcome bilateral clear responses – targeted follow up required**

Objective: to explain the NHSP screen outcome and NHSP surveillance, to complete and provide parent with appropriate NHSP documentation and demonstrate satisfactory communication skills.

This scenario is flexible to meet the needs of all screeners:

**Hospital screening programme:** Mother and baby are in patients in the maternity hospital and baby has bilateral clear responses from AOAE.

**Community screening programme, SCBU/NICU screener:** Baby is in the unit and Mother is present, baby has bilateral clear responses from both AOAE and AABR.

**Community screening programme, well baby screener:** This is your first visit to the home and baby has bilateral clear responses from AOAE.

This is a manned station, there will be an examiner who will observe you.

Give your name to the examiner.

There will be a parent (actor) present whose baby has already been screened by you as per NHSP protocols, with the outcome of bilateral clear responses.

Establish rapport with the parent (actor)

Explain clearly the results of the screen to the parent.

Ascertain if a targeted follow up is required for this baby.

Explain why the baby requires a targeted follow up.

Provide parents with any necessary paperwork.

Remember to check understanding and allow for questions.

Answer any questions appropriately

You will be expected to use the NHSP documentation associated with ascertaining risk factors; unless other documentation is used locally\*.

Documentation provided on this station:

a) NHSP checklist. b) NHSP clear response targeted follow-up letter. c) Risk factor form. d) PCHR (red book) page.

You will be asked questions related to the scenario.

**Station 9: Screen outcome: AOAE bilateral no clear responses, AABR is required.**

Objective: to explain the screen outcome and explain AABR screen, complete and provide parent with appropriate NHSP documentation and demonstrate satisfactory communication skills.

The scenario is flexible to meet the needs of all screeners

**Hospital screening programme:** Mother and baby are in patients in the maternity hospital. You have just completed AOAE 2 with bilateral no clear responses.

**Community screening programme, SCBU/NICU screener:** Baby is in the unit and Mother is present. You have just completed AOAE and now need to explain the AABR.

strong>Community Screening programme, well baby screener: You have just completed AOAE 2 in the home with bilateral no clear responses.

This is a manned station, there will be an examiner who will observe you.

Give your name to the examiner.

There will be a parent (actor) present whose baby has already been screened by you as per NHSP protocols, with the outcome of bilateral no clear responses from AOAE

Establish rapport with the parent (actor)

You need to fully explain the NHSP screen outcome, the need for the AABR screen and exactly what the AABR screen involves.

Remember to check understanding and allow for questions.

Answer any questions appropriately.

You will be asked questions related to the scenario.

## **Station 10: Screen outcome AABR bilateral no clear responses – Audiology referral required**

Objective: to explain the NHSP screen outcome and the referral process, to complete and provide parent with appropriate NHSP documentation and demonstrate satisfactory communication skills.

This is a manned station, there will be an examiner who will observe you.

Give your name to the examiner.

There will be a parent (actor) present whose baby has already been screened by you as per NHSP protocols, with the outcome of bilateral no clear responses from AABR.

Establish rapport with the parent (actor)

Explain the NHSP screen outcome and the need for referral for full audiological assessment, the referral process and what the appointment might involve.

Provide the parent (actor) with the appropriate NHSP documentation.

Remember to check understanding and allow for questions.

Answer any questions appropriately.

You will be asked questions related to the scenario.

Documentation provided on this station: a) PCHR (red book) page. b) NCR letter. c) leaflet: Your baby's visit to audiology.

If your local screening programme has modified the standard NHSP documentation for local use, please send a copy of your local documentation to the NHSP Centre at least 1 week prior to the OSCE.