

**UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION**  
**SCHULICH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY**  
**NARRATIVE ASSESSMENT IN THE CURRICULUM**

**Date of last review:** May 2018

**Revised:** April 2023

**Approved by the Curriculum Committee:** May 17, 2023

**Next revision:** 2026

## **PURPOSE**

Formative and summative assessment provides essential metrics for student achievement, advancement, progression and graduation. Receiving feedback is critical for a growth mindset in the Doctor of Medicine Program (MD Program), Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University.

## **RELEVANT ACCREDITATION ELEMENT**

**9.5 Narrative Assessment:** A medical school ensures that a narrative description of a medical student's performance, including the student's non-cognitive achievement, is included as a component of the assessment in each required learning experience in the medical education program whenever teacher-student interaction permits this form of assessment.

## **STATEMENT**

To support student attainment of the MD Program Graduation Competencies in a developmental manner, all non-clinical and clinical courses are expected to incorporate narrative into their assessment plans whenever possible. Faculty and residents are expected to document for students on their assessments and to include action items for next steps along the developmental trajectory. Narrative description of a medical student's performance includes, but is not limited to:

- Interim or midpoint assessment
- Formative or summative assessment
- Small group learning
- Reflections
- Inquiry-based learning

The Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) Office will provide a summary of student narrative assessments as a component of the assessment portfolio to 1) support decision making by the Competence Committee and 2) for the development of student learning and remediation plans when relevant.

Clerkship and Clinical Elective narrative assessments are included on the Medical Student Performance Record (MSPR) during the residency matching process. Students are expected to

review narrative assessments.