

OSCE

Candidate information

Your RMO has just done a knee aspirate in a 54 year old male with an acutely swollen knee. He has the results back from the lab, and is struggling with interpretation of the results.

Please review the results with him and guide him on management.

Domain	%
Medical expertise	60
Prioritisation and decision making	
Communication	
Teamwork and collaboration	
Leadership and management	
Health advocacy	
Scholarship and teaching	40
Professionalism	

Knee aspirate results

Actor (RMO) information

You have just received the results of a knee aspirate you did on a 54 year old male with an acutely swollen knee. You are unsure how to interpret the results and have asked your consultant to review them with you.

Of note, you failed to ask the patient about his medications. He is on warfarin, and you have now given him a haemarthrosis (see RCC). This information should only be volunteered if asked by the consultant.

Prompts:

- What are the possible diagnoses for a swollen knee?
- What do the results show?
- How can this be managed?
- What complications should I watch out for?
- (Why is the RCC so high?)

Marking:

- Explains results clearly – pseudogout, DDX septic joint
- Explains reason for this diagnosis
- Explains management – rest, anti-inflammatories, oral steroids
- Discusses importance of medication review/history taking re the missed warfarin factor

	Mark
Accurate interpretation of results as pseudogout	2
Mentions septic joint as differential	2
Explains results of aspirate clearly	1
Explains management of pseudogout	1
Explores/identifies reason for high RBC count	2
Discusses importance of medication review/history taking	1
Addresses questions properly/teaching style	1

Knee aspirate results

Colour: yellow

Turbidity: cloudy

WCC: $14500 \times 10^6/\text{L}$

RBC: $2000 \times 10^6/\text{L}$

PMN: 70%

Crystals: positively birefringent crystals present

Bacteria: nil