OSCE checklist for community health nursing: home oxygen

OSCE checklist for community health nursing: home oxygen safety focuses on preventing fire and using equipment exactly as prescribed, rather than changing treatment during a home visit. Use this original practice checklist with your course guidance and supervised skills teaching.

Numbered practice steps

1. Confirm identity using the setting's required identifiers. Introduce yourself as a student, explain the task, obtain consent and perform hand hygiene before contact or equipment use.
2. Check the prescribed oxygen plan and equipment provider's instructions. Ask the person to show how they normally use the equipment without changing any setting.
3. Look for smoking, vaping, flames, heat sources and unsafe electrical equipment near oxygen. Explain that oxygen makes materials burn more easily.
4. Check ventilation, smoke alarms, tubing routes and storage arrangements against the supplier's advice. Consider falls risks and whether children can reach the equipment.
5. Ask about skin products used around the face and nose. Check compatibility with the oxygen service rather than recommending an oily or petroleum-based product.
6. Agree what to change and who will contact the oxygen service. If breathing suddenly worsens, assess urgently and seek clinical help rather than adjusting oxygen independently.
7. Close by checking understanding, ensuring comfort and cleaning your hands and equipment as appropriate. Document findings and hand over any unresolved safety concern to the supervising practitioner.

Common omissions

A normal-looking cylinder does not make a smoky room safe. Moving equipment without checking the supply can interrupt treatment. Advice must include family members who smoke or use flames nearby.

Try an original practice task

Explain a fire hazard respectfully to a person who relies on oxygen at home. Rehearse a clear handover to the equipment provider and the supervising nurse.

These steps support learning, rather than authorising independent treatment. Follow your school's task and local policy; ask for help when a decision exceeds your competence.

Related nursing practice

Return to community nursing OSCE practice or use the full checklist directory.

For a related communication exercise, try a ward oxygen assessment station. Its task and clinical setting may differ from this checklist.

Common questions

Is this a school marking sheet?

No. This is an original learning checklist. Your school sets the task and assessment criteria.

Can I print this checklist?

Yes. Use the PDF download on this page for practice.

Sources

- NMC: The Code
- NHS: home oxygen therapy

Checked 2026-11-13. Fees and rules change, so confirm them with the regulator before you book.