

# Clinical Competence Assessment and Education Program



CPEP's **Clinical Competence Assessment Program** offers a variety of benefits to participating clinicians and to the organizations that refer them:

**Objectivity:** CPEP is an independent non-profit organization. Our assessments are free of bias, offering fairness to participants and credibility to those who refer them

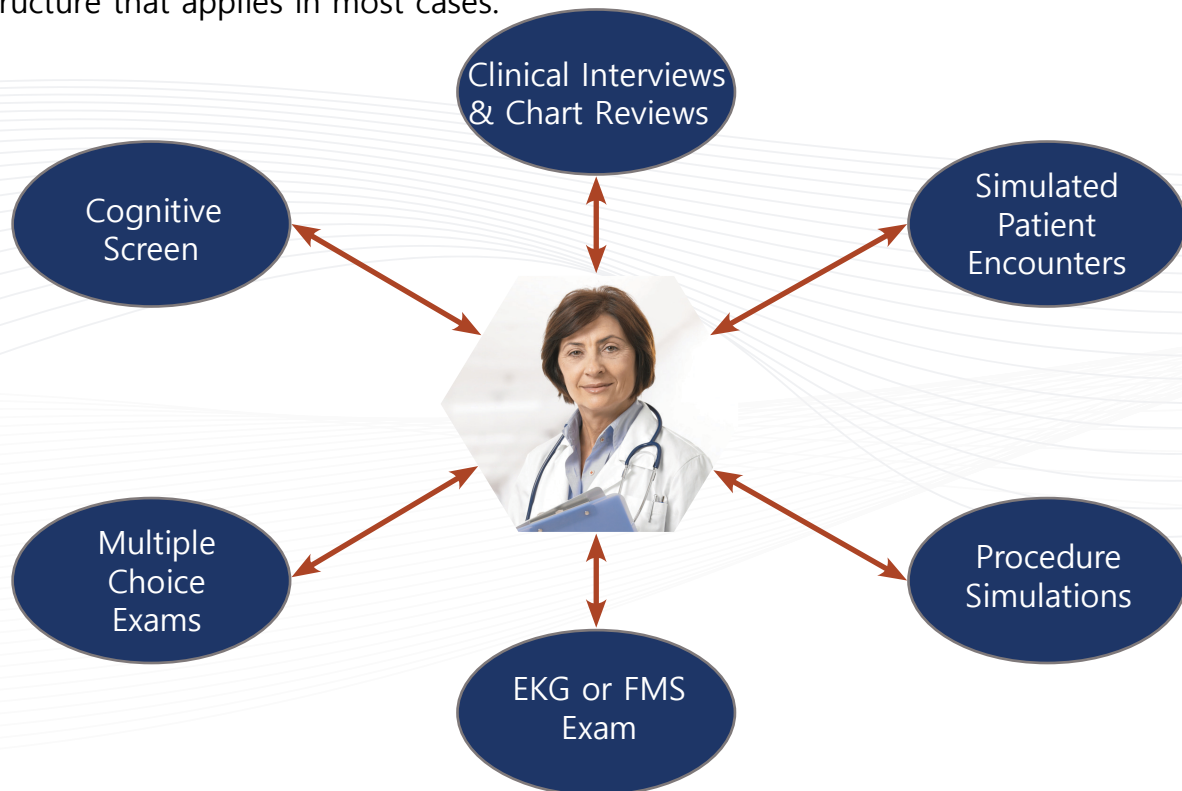
**Comprehensiveness:** CPEP assessments provide a "deep dive" into participants' overall clinical knowledge, clinical judgment and skills, documentation and communication

**A path forward:** CPEP assessments provide the basis for an educational plan that addresses opportunities for improvement in core competencies

**Professionalism:** We treat our participants with dignity and respect

## Components of an Assessment

Each assessment is individually tailored to the participant's specific needs. However, there is a common structure that applies in most cases:



- Structured clinical interviews are key components of the assessment process.
  - Each assessment includes 2 – 4 clinical interviews conducted by matched-specialty consultants.
  - Participants submit 24 – 40 patient charts (if available) to be reviewed in the assessment.
  - Each consultant conducts a 90-minute interview and reviews approximately 8–10 patient charts from the participants' practice.
  - CPEP has a pool of more than 300 community-based (80%) and academic (20%) clinicians. Consultants are chosen to have similar specialty and scope of practice as the participant.
- Most assessments also include:
  - A cognitive screen examining basic cognitive functions, such as memory and reaction time.
  - Simulated patient encounters that assess communication and documentation skills.
- Participants who perform procedures may take part in procedure simulations to assess technical skills.
- Participants interpret EKG tracings or fetal monitoring strips, *if relevant to their practice*.
- Written multiple choice exams from the NBME, NBOME, or NCCCPA may be used, if appropriate.

### Who should participate, where are Assessments held and how long does it take?

The Assessment Program is designed for Physicians, Physician Assistants, Advanced Practice Nurses, and Podiatrists. **Pre-COVID, CPEP assessments were scheduled at either our Denver, CO headquarters or at our east coast location in Raleigh, NC. At present, all assessments are being done remotely via video conference.** In general, we need about 4 to 6 weeks lead time to prepare for an assessment. Time on-site for the assessment itself is usually limited to two days, and a detailed, formal report is sent out in approximately 10 to 12 weeks.

### What happens if educational needs are identified?

If the assessment reveals educational needs, those areas will be outlined in a detailed report along with the rationale for those conclusions and educational recommendations. *See Education Program below for next steps.*

### How much does an Assessment cost?

The cost of an assessment varies depending upon the profession and specialty of the individual as well as the scope of the assessment. Contact CPEP for details.

### What is the Education Program?

If requested by the participant or referring agency, the participant may enroll in the **Education Program**. In this Program, CPEP develops a detailed, step by step plan to address educational needs identified in the Assessment and works with the participant to implement the plan. Educational activities are generally completed in the participant's home community as he/she continues in clinical practice. A CPEP Associate Medical Director guides the process and regular reports are provided to the participant and referring agency.

Each Plan is unique, but generally consists of the following:

- Self-directed study of evidence-based literature
- Accredited CME activities focused on educational goals
- Meetings with preceptor, including chart reviews, topic discussions, and, in some cases, observation of patient care

*The Education Program has separate enrollment and fees. Contact CPEP for details.*

### Ready to get started?

Call us in Denver at 303-577-3232 (select option 1) or in Raleigh at 919-238-6436

You may also e-mail us at [info@cpepdoc.org](mailto:info@cpepdoc.org)

One of our assessment professionals will be happy to answer your questions