

Tips for using: Direct Observation of Procedural Skills (DOPS)

- Performing an assessment every time a procedure is carried out, rather than the bare minimum, helps the trainee to learn more quickly and improves the skills of the assessor.
- Focussing on one particular phase of an operation or procedure reduces stress on the assessor and the trainee.
- The trainee can write up the procedure or operation notes while the assessor completes the assessment form (not forgetting to assess the operation note as well)
- Videotape operations for use as the basis for feedback. Endoscopic and laparoscopic procedures are ideal for this and many open operations can also be recorded with a camera in theatre light.

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