



College of Osteopathic Medicine
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Element 6.11: Comparability Across Clinical Education Sites

- **6.11-1 Supporting Documentation**
 - Comparability Across Clinical Education Sites Policies and Procedures – [link](#)

Comparability Across Clinical Education Sites

SHSU-COM has enlisted regional, community, and rural hospitals, as well as outpatient clinics, including Community Health Centers and Community Mental Health Clinics to provide students with clinical education. A regional clinical model for education focusing on the eastern region of Texas has been developed. Each region has multiple facilities for providing well-rounded clinical training in a variety of settings, enabling students to remain in a specific region for their clinical education. The core rotations have core content delivered via Blackboard and patient encounters that are tracked through log data. COMAT exams and other assessments are used to examine comparability. In addition, student, faculty, and staff feedback is gathered and analyzed to ensure a comprehensive review. The policies and procedures demonstrating how clinical sites are reviewed and evaluated for comparability are included on the following pages.



1. GENERAL

This SHSU-COM clinical site review policy describes how student outcomes at clinical educational sites shall be reviewed to ensure comparability of clinical experiences and equivalent methods of assessment.

2. OUTCOME MEASURES

2.1. Students at clinical education sites, also referred to as clerkships, shall be evaluated using Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Achievement Test (COMAT) exams and standardized preceptor evaluations based on the core competencies for osteopathic medical students.

2.2. SHSU-COM faculty shall create standard exams for those common specialties not covered by COMAT.

2.3. All core rotations shall have core content and specific procedures that shall be completed.

Students must submit procedure logs for each rotation.

3. CLINICAL SITES COMPARABILITY REVIEW

3.1. Student performance outcomes and procedure logs for each rotation and from all clinical sites shall be analyzed to ensure all students achieve similar outcomes based on core educational learning objectives and comparability in clinical educational experiences.

3.2. Action plans shall be developed and implemented for any site not deemed comparable through investigation of available data and recommendations from Clinical Affairs.

Procedure Title: Comparability

**Corresponding Policy: SHSU-COM Clinical Site Review Policy
COCA Standard/Element: COCA 6.11 – Comparability across
Clinical Sites**

**Effective: Upon granting of Pre-
Accreditation status**

Revised: January 22, 2019

Approved: SHSU-COM

Executive Committee,

November 24, 2020;

**Reviewed and Approved: SHSU-
COM CEC, May 2, 2023**

Description:

SHSU-COM shall provide clinical education at the clinical sites, which provides comparable educational experiences.

Procedure Step/Task	Responsible Party
1. Students shall be assigned to clerkship sites that have been specifically identified and evaluated for their ability to deliver a quality learning experience in the designated discipline. To the extent possible, core clerkships shall be conducted at sites that provide GME through accredited residencies and fellowships.	SHSU-COM Director of Clinical Education, Assistant Dean for Clinical Affairs
2. All core clerkships shall be evaluated through onsite inspections that occur at least annually, student feedback outcomes on standardized student assessments, and patient care logs.	SHSU-COM Educational Affairs, Clinical Affairs, Curriculum Committee
3. All core clerkship sites shall be required to provide comparable learning experiences that enable students to acquire the learning objectives in the published syllabus.	SHSU-COM Clinical Affairs
4. SHSU-COM shall provide faculty development for community clinical faculty to ensure comparability at clinical sites and to provide community clinical faculty with opportunities for the development of specific skills for medical education.	SHSU-COM Educational Affairs, Assistant Dean for Clinical Affairs.