



Eviscore Foundation Course

Module 1 – ASK

Worksheet 1A: Identifying Clinical Uncertainty

Estimated Time: 15 minutes

Difficulty: ★ Beginner

Name: _____

Date: _____

Learning Objectives

After completing this worksheet, you should be able to:

- Recognize clinical uncertainty.
 - Identify why additional evidence is needed.
 - Classify the type of clinical question.
-

Part A – What is Clinical Uncertainty?

Clinical uncertainty occurs when a healthcare professional is unsure about the best decision for a patient and needs evidence to guide care.

Reflection

Have you ever been unsure about the best treatment or investigation for a patient?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, briefly describe the situation.

Part B – Clinical Scenarios

Read each scenario and identify the main type of clinical question.

Scenario 1

A 68-year-old man presents with an acute ischaemic stroke. His wife asks, “Will thrombolysis improve his recovery?”

- ☐ Therapy
- ☐ Diagnosis
- ☐ Prognosis
- ☐ Harm
- ☐ Prevention

Scenario 2

A patient with fever is suspected to have infective endocarditis. The physician wants to know whether transoesophageal echocardiography is more accurate than transthoracic echocardiography.

- ☐ Therapy
- ☐ Diagnosis
- ☐ Prognosis
- ☐ Harm
- ☐ Prevention

Scenario 3

A family asks, “Will our father recover independent walking after this spinal cord injury?”

- ☐ Therapy
- ☐ Diagnosis
- ☐ Prognosis
- ☐ Harm
- ☐ Prevention

Scenario 4

A patient asks, “Does long-term smoking increase the risk of stroke?”

- ☐ Therapy
- ☐ Diagnosis
- ☐ Prognosis
- ☐ Harm
- ☐ Prevention

Scenario 5

A healthy adult asks, “Will influenza vaccination reduce my chance of getting influenza this year?”

- ☐ Therapy
 - ☐ Diagnosis
 - ☐ Prognosis
 - ☐ Harm
 - ☐ Prevention
-

Part C – Identify the Clinical Uncertainty

Choose one of the above scenarios.

Clinical Problem

What is the uncertainty?

What information do you need before making a decision?

Part D – Reflection

Complete the following sentence.

Evidence is needed because...

Self-Assessment

Tick the statements that apply to you.

- ☐ I can recognize clinical uncertainty.
 - ☐ I can identify the type of clinical question.
 - ☐ I understand why evidence is needed.
 - ☐ I am ready to learn how to build a PICOTT question.
-

Evidence Pearl

Every evidence-based decision begins with recognizing that you do not yet know the best answer. Clinical uncertainty is the starting point of Evidence-Based Practice.
