



THE AMERICAN ORTHOPAEDIC ASSOCIATION

Leadership in Orthopaedics since 1887

Resident Assessment Tools **AOA/CORD Assessment Tools Subcommittee**

Tool# 3

Operative Performance Tool

Acquiring skills to perform operative procedures is one of the most important competencies in orthopaedic surgical training. Residency training programs are required by the ACGME to have assessment tools and strategies for the six core competencies but not specifically for technical or surgical skills. The ACGME requires that residents in training participate in the web based case log system where they record their procedural experience using CPT codes. Given the importance of procedural skill to orthopaedic training and to quality patient care, initiatives to provide orthopaedic residents with summative and formative feedback on operative performance is very important. The Operative Performance Tool was developed by the CORD Assessment Tools Subcommittee.

Instructions for Use

1. The Operative Performance Tool should be used by faculty who have participated in a case with an orthopaedic resident.
2. Residents should be rated for their level of training; that is, in comparison to their colleagues in the same PGY year.
3. Scores of 3 and 4 indicate satisfactory progress with skills and scores of 1 and 2 indicate less than satisfactory performance for their level.
4. Residents receiving repeated scores of 1 and 2 from more than 1 faculty member are falling behind and should have particular attention paid toward their progress in surgical skills.
5. Direct feedback to the resident by the faculty member who evaluates them is recommended.
6. Resident self-assessment with the same form on the same case is also desirable.

Unresolved Issues

1. The number of cases on which residents should be evaluated is not known.
2. The optimal index cases for evaluation are under consideration.
3. External validity of the tool has not been assessed.
4. The issue of whether criteria for competent performance in index cases should be developed has been discussed.