Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka

Curriculum
2025/2026

For course

Clinical Assessment

Study program:	**Medical Studies in English (R)** University integrated undergraduate and graduate study
Department:	**Department of Internal Medicine**
Course coordinator:	**prof. Novak Srđan, dr. med.**
Year of study:	**6**
ECTS:	**3**
Incentive ECTS:	**0 (0.00%)**
Foreign language:	**Possibility of teaching in a foreign language**

Course information:

Clinical Assessment is a compulsory course in the 6 th year of study of the Integrated undergraduate and graduate university study of Medicine in English. It consists of 24 hours of lectures and 26 hours of seminars (3 ECTS). Lectures and seminars will be held online or onsite, depending on the epidemiological situation. The course will be organized at the Clinic for Internal Medicine, Sušak location, address T. Strižića 3, Rijeka, and Rijeka location, address Krešimirova 42, Rijeka.

The aim of the course is to sublimate knowledge of clinical courses from previous years and to prepare students for a practical approach to patients regarding the symptoms and signs of most common diseases. It is necessary that students have passed most of the prior clinical courses. This course will prepare students for a rational approach to diagnostic procedures for most common conditions in everyday clinical practice and in differential diagnosis. Students will be given practical algorithms for diagnostic procedures for most common symptoms.

Course content: the course will include content regarding the clinical assessment of patients with: 1) chest pain, 2) heart failure, 3) high blood pressure, 4) cough, 5) shortness of breath, 6) abdominal pain, 7) swallowing difficulties, 8) jaundice, 9) weight loss, 10) lymphadenopathy, 11) anemia, 12) hematological emergencies, 13) high temperature, 14) dilemmas in clinical assessment of oncological patients, 15) chronic kidney failure, 16) swollen legs, 17) electrolyte disorders, 18) sugar and lipid disorders, 19) polyarthritis, 20) muscle pain and weakness, 21) most common dermatological disorders, 22) obesity, 23) movement disorders, 24) back pain and 25) osteodegenerative diseases.

Learning outcomes:

Cognitive domain – knowledge 1

. specify and describe symptoms and physical signs of most common cardiovascular, pulmonary, gastrointestinal, kidney, musculoskeletal, endocrine, hematological, neurological, infectious and skin diseases

2. differentiate the differential diagnosis of particular symptoms of diseases

3. relate laboratory disorders with associated symptoms of diseases

4. integrate knowledge from preclinical and clinical courses

Psychomotor domain – skills

1. recognize symptoms and physical signs of most common cardiovascular, pulmonary, gastrointestinal, kidney, musculoskeletal, endocrine, hematological, neurological, infectious and skin diseases

2. identify and estimate symptoms, physical signs and laboratory findings which require urgent patient care

List of assigned reading:

1. Jameson JL et al. Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine, 20th Edition. McGraw-Hill Education: New York, USA, 2018.e-edition available at https://accessmedicine.mhmedical.com/book.aspx?bookid=2129

2. Seller RH., Symons AB: Differential Diagnosis of Common Complaints, 6.ed. Elsevier Science, 2012. https://www.clinicalkey.com/#!/browse/book/3-s2.0- C20150022286?indexOverride=GLOBAL

Lectures and seminars as original PPT presentations in PDF format will be available for students to download from the Merlin platform, once they are held.

List of optional reading:

Stuart H. Ralston, Ian Penman, Mark Strachan & Richard Hobson. Davidson's Principles and Practice of Medicine, 23rd Edition. Elsevier, 2018.

Adam Feather, David Randall & Mona Waterhouse. Kumar and Clark's Clinical Medicine, 10th Edition. Elsevier, 2020.

Curriculum:

Lectures list (with titles and explanation):

L1. Clinical assessment of patients with muscle pain and weakness

Specify and describe the causes of muscle pain and weakness. Specify differential diagnosis of muscle pain and weakness.

L3. Clinical assessment of chest pain

Specify, recognize and differentiate cardiac, gastrointestinal, pulmonary and musculoskeletal causes of chest pain. Recognize indications for emergency management.

L5. Dilemmas in clinical assessment of oncological patients

Specify and recognize the most common adverse events of chemotherapy. Describe the holistic approach to oncological patients.

L7. Clinical assessment of abdominal pain

Specify and describe different causes of abdominal pain. Recognize indications for emergency surgical management of abdominal pain.

L9. Clinical assessment of cardiac failure

Recognize and differentiate different symptoms and signs of cardiac failure. Specify causes of cardiac failure.

L11. Clinical assessment of arterial hypertension

Describe, recognize and distinguish essential from nephrogenic hypertension. Describe hypertension associated with endocrine diseases.

L13. Clinical assessment of obesity

Specify, recognize and differentiate different causes of obesity.

L15. Clinical assessment of lymphadenopathy

Specify, recognize and differentiate different causes of lymphadenopathy.

L17. Selected cases in dermatology I

Specify, recognize and differentiate most common dermatological disorders.

L19. Clinical assessment of febrile patient

Describe and explain different causes of high temperature. Assess the impact of other diseases on febrile condition and their role in treatment of febrile conditions.

L23. Clinical assessment of osteodegenerative diseases

Describe and explain phenotype diversity in osteoarthritis.

L21. Clinical assessment of low back pain

Describe and explain causes of back pain. Recognize and determine differences in inflammatory/mechanical back pain.

L.2. Clinical assessment of patients with muscle pain and weakness

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L4. Clinical assessment of chest pain

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L5. Dilemmas in clinical assessment of oncological patients

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L8. Clinical assessment of abdominal pain

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L10. Clinical assessment of cardiac failure

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L12. Clinical assessment of arterial hypertension

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L14. Clinical assessment of obesity

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L16. Clinical assessment of lymphadenopathy

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L18. Selected cases in dermatology II

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L20. Clinical assessment of febrile patient

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L24. Clinical assessment of osteodegenerative diseases

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L22. Clinical assessment of low back pain

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L6. Dilemmas in clinical assessment of oncological patients

Dilemmas in clinical assessment of oncological patients

Seminars list (with titles and explanation):

S1.-S2. Clinical assessment of swollen legs

Specify, describe and recognize cardiogenic, vascular and other causes of swollen legs and the effect of some drugs on swollen legs.

S3.-S4. Clinical assessment of chronic kidney failure

Specify, recognize and differentiate different causes of kidney failure and assess the need for urgent intervention.

S5.-S6. Clinical assessment of electrolyte disorders

Specify and recognize symptoms and signs of different electrolyte disorders.

S7.-S8. Clinical assessment of cough

Specify, recognize and differentiate different causes of cough. Differentiate different therapeutic approaches to cough.

S9.-S10. Clinical assessment of shortness of breath

Describe, recognize and differentiate different causes of shortness of breath.

S11.-S12. Clinical assessment of swallowing difficulties

Specify, recognize and differentiate different causes of swallowing difficulties.

S13.-S14. Clinical assessment of jaundice

Specify, recognize and differentiate different causes of jaundice. Differentiate different therapeutic approaches to jaundice.

S15.-S16. Clinical assessment of anemia

Specify, recognize and differentiate different causes of weight loss.

S17.-S18. Clinical assessment of weight loss

Describe, explain and recognize different causes of anemias based on symptoms and laboratory findings.

S19.-S20. Clinical assessment of hematological emergencies

Specify, describe and recognize different hematological emergencies.

S21.-S22. Clinical assessment of sugar and lipid disorders

Specify, describe and recognize symptoms and signs of sugar and lipid disorders. Assess infulence of these disorders on different organs. Assess the need for emergency management of sugar disorders

S23.-S24. Clinical assessment of polyarthritis

Specify, describe and recognize different causes of polyarthritis.

S25.-S26. Clinical assessment of movement disorders

Specify, describe and recognize different causes of movement disorders.

Student obligations:

Attendance in lectures and seminars is mandatory. Teachers and students communicate via email addresses (@uniri.hr). For a detailed description of obligations during classes, see the Assessment section.

Exam (exam taking, description of the written/oral/practical part of the exam, point distribution, grading criteria):

Student assessment is carried out in accordance with the current University of Rijeka Study Regulations and the Ordinance on Student Assessment and Evaluation at the Faculty of Medicine Rijeka (adopted by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka).
Student work will be evaluated during classes and at the final exam. Out of a total of 100 grade points, the student can obtain 60 grade points (60%) during classes and 40 grade points (40%) at the final exam.
Student assessment is performed using the ECTS (A–F) and numerical grading system (1–5).
Student assessment according to the ECTS system is carried out based on the absolute distribution and graduate-level assessment criteria.
Out of 60 grade points that can be obtained during classes, the student must obtain at least 30 grade points to take the final exam. Students who obtain less than 30 grade points will have the opportunity to retake one midterm exam. If they do not obtain 30 grade points (grade F) on the retaken midterm exam, they have to re-enroll in the course.

The student acquires grade points by completing the tasks as follows:
I. During the course (maximum 60 grade points):
a) activity on seminar classes (maximum 10 grade points)
b) obligatory written midterm exam (maximum 50 grade points)

Activity on seminar classes (maximum 10 grade points)

The student can obtain a maximum of 10 grade points with activity on seminars. On each seminar class, the teacher gives the student 1–5 grade points based on student activity (participation in discussions based on case studies – answers and questions about topics associated with clinical cases).
The number of absolute points for student activity ranges from 13 to 65 (there are 13 seminar classes), and these points are converted into final grade points according to the following table:

POINTS ACQUIRED ON SEMINAR CLASSES	GRADE POINTS
13–17	1
18–22	2
23–27	3
28–32	4
33–37	5
38–42	6
43–48	7
49–54	8
55–60	9
61–65	10

Obligatory midterm exam (maximum 50 grade points)
During the course, students must take an obligatory written midterm exam. The written midterm exam will be held on the last seminar class. The midterm exam has 50 questions and is worth 50 grade points (range 26–50 grade points, pass criteria are >50% of correct answers on the test). Points on the written midterm exam are calculated into final grade points in a way that every correct answer carries 1 point (in case the student has >50% correct answers), which means 26 correct answers – 26 points; 50 correct answers – 50 grade points.
If the student obtains a minimum of 26 grade points on the written midterm exam, they have to obtain a minimum of 4 grade points for activity on seminar classes, i.e. if they obtain a minimum of 29 grade points on the midterm exam, 1 grade point for activity on seminar classes is enough.

II. Final exam (maximum 40 grade points):
Who may take the final exam?
Students who obtained more than 30 grade points during classes may take the final oral exam on which they can achieve a maximum of 40 grade points.
Who may not take the final exam?

Students who obtained less than 30 grade points during classes may not take the final exam (they must re-enroll in the course in the following academic year).

The final exam is an oral exam worth 40 grade points (range 20–40).
Success on the final exam is converted into grade points as follows:

success on the final exam	**grade points**
insufficient	0
sufficient	20
good	30
very good	35
excellent	40

Other important information regarding the course:
To pass the final exam and to be candidate for final evaluation (including grade points obtained during classes), the student must obtain a minimum of 20 grade points (sufficient) on the final exam.
Grades in the ECTS grading system are converted into the numerical system as follows:
A – 90–100%
B – 75–89.9%
C – 60–74.9%
D – 50–59.9%
F – 0–49.9%

Other notes (related to the course) important for students:

Course content and all information related to the course and exam dates can be found on the Faculty’s website. All student inquiries, possible problems and remarks regarding the course are communicated exclusively using the official e-mail address (@medri.uniri.hr). It is possible to arrange consultations with the teachers during working hours.

COURSE HOURS 2025/2026

Clinical Assessment

Lectures (Place and time or group)	**Seminars** (Place and time or group)
23.02.2026	

L1. Clinical assessment of patients with muscle pain and weakness:
• P12 - KBC SUŠAK (08:30 - 10:00) [308]
  ○ CA
	S1.-S2. Clinical assessment of swollen legs:
	• P12 - KBC SUŠAK (10:00 - 11:30) [322]
	  ○ CA

izv. prof. dr. sc. Bubić Ivan, dr. med. [322] · prof. Novak Srđan, dr. med. [308]	
24.02.2026	

	S3.-S4. Clinical assessment of chronic kidney failure:
	• P12 - KBC SUŠAK (08:15 - 09:45) [312]
	  ○ CA
	
	S5.-S6. Clinical assessment of electrolyte disorders:
	• P12 - KBC SUŠAK (10:00 - 11:30) [3329]
	  ○ CA

dr. sc. Mesaroš Devčić Iva, dr. med. [3329] · izv. prof. prim. dr. sc. Živčić-Ćosić Stela, dr. med. [312]	
25.02.2026	

L5. Dilemmas in clinical assessment of oncological patients:
• P11 - KBC RI (08:15 - 09:45) [314]
  ○ CA
 	
L6. Dilemmas in clinical assessment of oncological patients:
• P11 - KBC RI (08:15 - 09:45) [314]
  ○ CA
	S11.-S12. Clinical assessment of swallowing difficulties:
	• P11 - KBC RI (10:00 - 11:30) [444]
	  ○ CA
	
	S13.-S14. Clinical assessment of jaundice:
	• P11 - KBC RI (11:45 - 13:15) [327]
	  ○ CA

prof. dr. sc. Dobrila-Dintinjana Renata, dr. med. [314] · doc. dr. sc. Licul Vanja, dr. med. [444] · prof. dr. sc. Milić Sandra, dr. med. [327]	
26.02.2026	

L7. Clinical assessment of abdominal pain:
• P11 - KBC RI (08:15 - 09:45) [444]
  ○ CA
 	
L8. Clinical assessment of abdominal pain:
• P11 - KBC RI (08:15 - 09:45) [444]
  ○ CA
	S17.-S18. Clinical assessment of weight loss:
	• P11 - KBC RI (10:00 - 11:30) [444]
	  ○ CA

doc. dr. sc. Licul Vanja, dr. med. [444]	
27.02.2026	

L21. Clinical assessment of low back pain:
• P12 - KBC SUŠAK (12:00 - 13:00) [308]
  ○ CA
 	
L22. Clinical assessment of low back pain:
• P12 - KBC SUŠAK (12:00 - 13:00) [308]
  ○ CA
	S23.-S24. Clinical assessment of polyarthritis:
	• P12 - KBC SUŠAK (10:15 - 11:45) [308]
	  ○ CA

prof. Novak Srđan, dr. med. [308]	
02.03.2026	

L13. Clinical assessment of obesity:
- P11 - KBC RI (08:15 - 10:00) [325]
  - CA

L14. Clinical assessment of obesity:
- P11 - KBC RI (08:15 - 10:00) [325]
  - CA

S21.-S22. Clinical assessment of sugar and lipid disorders:
- ONLINE (12:15 - 13:45) [319]
  - CA

S25.-S26. Clinical assessment of movement disorders:
- P11 - KBC RI (14:15 - 15:00) [156]
  - CA

S15.-S16. Clinical assessment of anemia:
- ONLINE (17:00 - 18:30) [316]
  - CA

S19.-S20. Clinical assessment of hematological emergencies:
- ONLINE (18:30 - 20:00) [316]
  - CA

prof. dr. sc. Jurišić-Eržen Dubravka, dr. med., prim. [319] · prof. dr. sc. Klobučar Sanja, dr. med. [325] · doc.dr. sc. Petranović Duška, prim.dr. med. [316] · izv.prof. prim. dr. sc. Vuletić Vladimira, dr. med. [156]

03.03.2026

L15. Clinical assessment of lymphadenopathy:
- P11 - KBC RI (08:15 - 09:45) [2491]
  - CA

L16. Clinical assessment of lymphadenopathy:
- P11 - KBC RI (08:15 - 09:45) [2491]
  - CA

L17. Selected cases in dermatology I:
- P11 - KBC RI (10:00 - 10:45) [141]
  - CA

L18. Selected cases in dermatology II:
- P11 - KBC RI (10:45 - 11:30) [253]
  - CA

L19. Clinical assessment of febrile patient:
- P11 - KBC RI (11:45 - 13:15) [288]
  - CA

L20. Clinical assessment of febrile patient:
- P11 - KBC RI (11:45 - 13:15) [288]
  - CA

S7.-S8. Clinical assessment of cough:
- P11 - KBC RI (15:00 - 16:30) [310]
  - CA

doc. dr. sc. Barković Igor, dr. med. [310] · izv. prof. dr. sc. Cekinović Grbeša Đurđica, dr. med. [288] · prof. dr. sc. Kaštelan Marija, dr. med. [141] · izv.prof.dr.sc. Perić Zinaida, dr. med. [2491] · prof. dr. sc. Prpić Massari Larisa, dr. med. [253]

04.03.2026

L11. Clinical assessment of arterial hypertension:
• P22 (08:30 - 09:45) [324]
  ◦ CA
 	
L12. Clinical assessment of arterial hypertension:
• P22 (08:30 - 09:45) [324]
  ◦ CA
 	
L23. Clinical assessment of osteodegenerative diseases:
• P22 (11:45 - 13:15) [157]
  ◦ CA
 	
L24. Clinical assessment of osteodegenerative diseases:
• P22 (11:45 - 13:15) [157]
  ◦ CA
 	
L9. Clinical assessment of cardiac failure:
• ONLINE (17:00 - 18:30) [422]
  ◦ CA
 	
L10. Clinical assessment of cardiac failure:
• ONLINE (17:00 - 18:30) [422]
  ◦ CA
 	
L3. Clinical assessment of chest pain:
• ONLINE (18:30 - 20:00) [422] [309]
  ◦ CA
 	
L4. Clinical assessment of chest pain:
• ONLINE (18:30 - 20:00) [422] [309]
  ◦ CA
	S9.-S10. Clinical assessment of shortness of breath:
	• P22 (10:00 - 11:30) [310]
	  ◦ CA

doc. dr. sc. Barković Igor, dr. med. [310] · prof. dr. sc. Rački Sanjin, dr. med. [324] · prof. dr. sc. Ružić Alen, dr. med. [309] · prof. dr. sc. Schnurrer-Luke-Vrbanić Tea, dr. med. [157] · nasl.doc. dr. sc. Zaninović Jurjević Teodora, dr. med. [422]	

List of lectures, seminars and practicals:

LECTURES (TOPIC)	Number of hours	Location
L1. Clinical assessment of patients with muscle pain and weakness	1	P12 - KBC SUŠAK
L3. Clinical assessment of chest pain	1	ONLINE
L5. Dilemmas in clinical assessment of oncological patients	1	P11 - KBC RI
L7. Clinical assessment of abdominal pain	1	P11 - KBC RI
L9. Clinical assessment of cardiac failure	1	ONLINE
L11. Clinical assessment of arterial hypertension	1	P22
L13. Clinical assessment of obesity	1	P11 - KBC RI
L15. Clinical assessment of lymphadenopathy	1	P11 - KBC RI
L17. Selected cases in dermatology I	1	P11 - KBC RI
L19. Clinical assessment of febrile patient	1	P11 - KBC RI
L23. Clinical assessment of osteodegenerative diseases	1	P22
L21. Clinical assessment of low back pain	1	P12 - KBC SUŠAK
L.2. Clinical assessment of patients with muscle pain and weakness	1	
L4. Clinical assessment of chest pain	1	ONLINE
L5. Dilemmas in clinical assessment of oncological patients	1	
L8. Clinical assessment of abdominal pain	1	P11 - KBC RI

L10. Clinical assessment of cardiac failure	1	ONLINE
L12. Clinical assessment of arterial hypertension	1	P22
L14. Clinical assessment of obesity	1	P11 - KBC RI
L16. Clinical assessment of lymphadenopathy	1	P11 - KBC RI
L18. Selected cases in dermatology II	1	P11 - KBC RI
L20. Clinical assessment of febrile patient	1	P11 - KBC RI
L24. Clinical assessment of osteodegenerative diseases	1	P22
L22. Clinical assessment of low back pain	1	P12 - KBC SUŠAK
L6. Dilemmas in clinical assessment of oncological patients	1	P11 - KBC RI

SEMINARS (TOPIC)	Number of hours	Location
S1.-S2. Clinical assessment of swollen legs	2	P12 - KBC SUŠAK
S3.-S4. Clinical assessment of chronic kidney failure	2	P12 - KBC SUŠAK
S5.-S6. Clinical assessment of electrolyte disorders	2	P12 - KBC SUŠAK
S7.-S8. Clinical assessment of cough	2	P11 - KBC RI
S9.-S10. Clinical assessment of shortness of breath	2	P22
S11.-S12. Clinical assessment of swallowing difficulties	2	P11 - KBC RI
S13.-S14. Clinical assessment of jaundice	2	P11 - KBC RI
S15.-S16. Clinical assessment of anemia	2	ONLINE
S17.-S18. Clinical assessment of weight loss	2	P11 - KBC RI
S19.-S20. Clinical assessment of hematological emergencies	2	ONLINE
S21.-S22. Clinical assessment of sugar and lipid disorders	2	ONLINE
S23.-S24. Clinical assessment of polyarthritis	2	P12 - KBC SUŠAK
S25.-S26. Clinical assessment of movement disorders	2	P11 - KBC RI

EXAM DATES (final exam):

1.	06.03.2026.
2.	27.04.2026.
3.	23.06.2026.
4.	07.07.2026.
5.	01.09.2026.
6.	15.09.2026.