

Attachment 2: Advantages and disadvantages of online exams

Study	Year	Nation	Design	Strength	Weakness
Gaur et al. [26]	2020	Bridgetown, Barbados	Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attract students to learn on their own initiative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aggravate the problem of students' integrity in exams
Pace et al. [27]	2020	UK	Letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No mentioned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead to the potential unfairness of the examination
Felthun et al. [28]	2021	Australia	Retrospective observational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can effectively perform most clinical skill assessments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unable to physical examination assessment
Alsoufi et al. [29]	2020	Libya	Cross-sectional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent delays in graduation and disruption of medical education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific technical issues (e.g. need for specific cameras) The risk of test questions being leaked
Zagury-Orly et al. [30]	2021	Canada	Personal views	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better assess students' thinking and reasoning skills Improve students' Internet application ability More conform to the requirements of the real clinical work environment Raise students' attention to evidence-based medicine Promote students to become self-directed learners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not suitable for assessing students' ability to understand and recall information

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Mathieson et al. [31]	2020	UK	Letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easier to track exam progress Reduce mistakes when filling out answer sheets Closer to work life More convenient and labor-saving Can timely test the learning situation Reduce anxiety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More likely to cheat in exams
Jaap et al. [32]	2021	UK	Cross-sectional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exam atmosphere is more relaxed and conducive to reducing anxiety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No exam atmosphere and difficulty concentrating Increase pre-test anxiety Require a quiet test environment Increase the inequity of exams
Atwa et al. [34]	2022	Bahrain	Mixed methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No mentioned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exam difficulty decreased Inaccurate assessment Potential cheating in the exam
Dhillon et al. [35]	2020	Canada	Observational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No mentioned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential academic integrity issues
Eckhardt et al. [36]	2021	UK	Cross-sectional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced exam fees (no additional accommodation and travel required) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential Internet connection and equipment problems Lost the sense of special occasion Lack of face-to-face interaction and non-verbal communication