

# The Impact of Formative Assessment on Medical Students' Learning: A Scoping Review

Zohreh Sohrabi <sup>1</sup>, Zohreh Hosseinzadeh <sup>2</sup>, Forouzan Kavarizadeh <sup>2</sup>,

<sup>1</sup>Department of Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, Vice-Director, Center for Educational Research in Medical Sciences, Iran University of Medical, Tehran, Iran.

Article type:IntroReview Articlepurpo	<b>duction:</b> Formative Assessment is integral to medical education, serving the se of enhancing learning efficacy, providing feedback to students and faculty, and ag teaching methodologies for student advancement and academic progression.
refinin This s	tudy was meretore designed with the ann of investigating formative assessment
Received: Dec. 07, 2024 and it: Revised: Dec. 22, 2024 <b>Mate</b> Accepted: Dec. 29, 2024 O'Ma E- Publish: Apr. 01, 2025 O'Ma of Sc educa	s impact on the education of students. <b>rials and Methods:</b> This study was a scoping review are based on Arksey and ley's framework. Published studies from 2000 to 2024 were retrieved from Web ence (WOS), Scopus, PubMed/Medline (NLM), and ERIC. The keywords of tion, teaching, learning, medical education, Formative Assessment and their
Correspondence to: Englis	h equivalents were used.
Forouzan Kavarizadeh Resu Department of Medical Education, Faculty of Medicine, Vice- Director, Center for Educational Research in Medical Sciences, Iran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran. OSCE Conce learni educa teachi	<b>Its:</b> A total of 2,433 articles were initially identified, with 53 meeting the inclusion a. After screening, 16 key conceptual areas related to the impact of Formative sment in medical education were identified. These areas include web-based self- ment, feedback, longitudinal assessment, classroom interaction, dynamic ation, motivation, cumulative learning impact, continuous revision, reflection, <i>c</i> , clinical reasoning, instructor experience, and strategies for student success. <b>Iusion:</b> The findings of this review show the impact of Formative Assessment on ng, teaching and introduce some methods of Formative Assessment in medical tion and the benefits of using them. By integrating these strategies into your ng practice, you can generate a dynamic learning environment that supports are student development and fosters a culture of continuous improvement
Email: forouzankawarizadeh@yahoo.com How to cite this paper	vords: Formative Assessment, Learning, Medical Education, Scoping Review

Sohrabi Z. Hosseinzadeh Z. Kavarizadeh F. The Impact of Formative Assessment on Medical Students' Learning: A Scoping Review. J Bas Res Med Sci .2025;12(2):59-70.



© The Author(s)

# Introduction

Education is a complex process, particularly in medical sciences, where graduates must be prepared to work directly with patients. It is vital that medical students learn effective communication skills, which are fundamental to their education (1, 2). Since 1990, UNESCO has advocated for educational reforms worldwide under the slogan 'Education for All,' aiming to enhance the quality of educational systems (3).

Therefore, human societies must seek to climb the stairs of success and all-round development through focusing on educational development. Several factors and criteria play a role in the development of education, including the assessment system in education (4). An important part of the educational process is assessment and a suitable means to modify the goals, programs and methods of teaching and an fundamental part of the teaching-learning process (5), which is carried out continuously along with education and in close association with it.

Instead of emphasizing on the classification of learners and comparing them with each other, assessment focuses on their educational guidance (4). Therefore, assessment is a comprehensive and necessary process for all higher education organizations and institutions that aim for justice and excellence, as improving the modality of teaching and learning is the most central value of academic institutions in the first place (6).

Basically, student assessment is considered as important pillars of university teaching and learning. effective assessment not only plays a significant role in screening students, but also increases students' motivation and also helps the instructor in evaluating his/her own activities. The goal of properly assessing students is to encourage learning and to inform students, to inform instructors, to improve learning activities, to select students, and to prepare them for promotion. Student assessment methods are different, and depending on their type, they are able to evaluate different areas of learning, so it is better to use tests that are able to measure high-level areas of learning. In other words, in the higher education system, the assessment of academic progress is done with various methods and tools; therefore, the selection of the assessment method and the way of designing the test questions should be in such a way that they specifically evaluate those materials and learnings that have been transferred to the learners during the education process (7).

Assessment is a research that uses quantitative and qualitative methods as well as formal and informal methods in order to understand, judge and improve an educational activity (8). Assessment can be done in relation to the learner, teacher, curriculum, etc. On the other hand, assessment can be used at different levels (9). Of course, there are different methods for assessment, which include: descriptive test, true-false test, oral test, log book, multiple choice questions, structured objective clinical test, etc. (10). The results of some studies indicate that evaluating the course. Also, course assessment has the ability to provide instructors with valuable information about the course curriculum. Students are competent people who provide valuable information about their experience in learning, and many instructors find the students' point of view enlightening and useful when evaluating a course. This is why most universities use their current students for course assessment (11-13).

Since students, as the main target group of education activities, are one of the best options for evaluating the education process and future plans for its improvement, the present study was therefore designed with the aim of investigating formative assessment and its impact on the education of students. Using the results of the present study, formative assessment and its effects on education were revealed. In addition, formative assessment methods adopted in medical education were examined, and most of the uses and benefits of each of these methods were determined. By using the results of this study, we can contribute to the improvement of the students' education process with regard to the correct use of appropriate formative assessment methods in their education.

# **Materials and Methods**

This type of review, which is a subset of systematic or systematic review, is defined as Quickly review key concepts in a specific research topic and find definitive sources and types of evidence available (14, 15). A scoping review, like a systematic review, includes a structured process and a systematic search method, but it has not had some of the limitations of a systematic review, such as evaluating the quality of the reviewed articles. As a result, more resources are reviewed and used in less time (16, 17). The steps of this scoping review are based on Arksey and O'Malley's framework for scoping reviews (15) (Figure 1).

# 1. Identification of research questions

The questions of this research included the following:

- How is formative assessment done in student education?
- What is the impact of formative assessment on students' learning in medical education?
- What is the impact of formative assessment on training in medical education?

• Which of the formative assessment methods is used more in medical education?

• What are the advantages and disadvantages of using each formative assessment method in medical education?

# *Identifying studies related to the topic*

PIAO (P (population), I (Intervention), A (Alternative intervention), O (Outcome)) format (18) The search strategy was used to examine the current range. (Search Syntax S1).

#### 61

#### Search Syntax - S1

This term used for search:

#### Search syntax in PubMed: (15 August 2024: 292)

("formative assessment"[title/abstract] OR "formative evaluation"[title/abstract]) AND ("Medical Education"[title/abstract]] OR Education, Medical [title/abstract]] AND 2000/01/01:2024/08/15[dp]

#### Search syntax in Web of Sciences (15 August 2024: 650)

("formative assessment" OR "formative evaluation") AND ("Medical Education" OR Education, Medical

#### Search syntax in Scopus (15 August 2024: 1,138)

 $\label{eq:transformation} \begin{array}{l} \text{TITLE-ABS-KEY (( "formative assessment" OR "formative evaluation" ) AND ( "Medical Education" OR education, AND medical ) ) AND ( PUBYEAR > 2000 AND PUBYEAR < 2025) \\ \end{array}$ 

#### Search syntax in Eric (15 August 2024: 711)

((title :("formative assessment" OR "formative evaluation") OR (abstract :("formative assessment" OR "formative evaluation") AND ((title :( "Medical Education" OR education, AND medical) OR (abstract :("Medical Education" OR education, AND medical)) AND pubyear: 2000-2025

Figure 1. Search Syntax S1

#### 1. Licensed Journal Databases

Z.H. performed electronic searches in the following databases between January 1, 2000, and August 30, 2024: PubMed/Medline (NLM), Scopus, Web of Science (WOS), and ERIC. The syntax of this scoping review (designed by Z.H. and F.K.) is a combination of Medical Subject Headings (MeSH; MEDLINE), Emtree medical (Embase) terms, and free text words in research equations with "OR" and "AND." Boolean operators were used. Free text words were also selected from the synonyms of all keywords used in the text of relevant studies. The search strategy was initially created in PubMed/MEDLINE (NLM) and then translated into other databases (Search Syntax S1). We did not search ongoing, unpublished studies and gray literature such as books, theses, conference proceedings/abstracts, and news/magazine articles.

### 2. Hand Searching

Manual searches (performed by F.K. and Z.H. independently) included scanning reference lists of included studies, similar reviews, and three key journals.

#### 2. Retrieving the studies

Published studies that dealt with formative assessment methods in medical education were retrieved from

international medical databases such as Web of Science (WOS), Scopus, PubMed/Medline (NLM), and ERIC The keywords "formative assessment, medical education OR education, medical". The first keyword was searched with other keywords and finally with a combination of them. In this regard, AND, and OR operators were used. Quotation mark was used for search. The search strategy in terms of selected keywords was as follows:

("formative assessme	ent"[title/ab	stract]	OR	"formative
evaluation"[title/abstrac	:t])	AND		("Medical
Education"[title/abstrac	t] OR	Educ	ation,	Medical
[title/abstract])				

In order to have high sensitivity, the first step was to search for articles in databases, without applying restrictions such as language and year of publication. To have high specificity, in reviewing the title and summary of articles, articles published in English from 01/01/2000 to 08/30/2024 that is subject to the entry criteria were included in the study, and the high sensitivity and specificity mentioned in systematic reviews were observed. Studies dealing with formative assessment in medical education were reviewed in international search engines based on the research protocol. To minimize possible biases, articles that met the following criteria were included in the study (Table 1).

Criterion	Inclusion	Exclusion						
Study design	All articles related to program evaluation methods will be reviewed.	All articles unrelated to program evaluation methods will be included in the review.						
Participant	Medical or Paramedical Medical Students	Non-medical or non-paramedical students						
Language	English	Other languages						
Date of publication	01/01/2000: 08/30/2024	Before 01/01/2000 and after 08/30/2024						
Contort	Eny medical or paramedical setting, and medical	Any non-medical or non-paramedical						
Context	classroom	setting and non-medical classroom						

Table 1. Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

### 3. Study selection

### Data Extraction & Data Synthesis

At first, the data extraction tool was piloted with three articles of varied methodological approaches to ensure it would collect correct and effective information. This process was verified by one researcher (Z.S.). Then, two reviewers (Z.H. and F.K.) independently extracted data from primary articles by extraction form. Any discrepancies were resolved same as screening stage. Data charted and reported based on Arksey and O'Malley's framework for scoping reviews (21).

#### Level of Evidence

Two reviewers (Z.H. and F.K.) assessed the level of data classification for studies. Conflicts were resolved by discussion to reach a consensus. A third reviewer (Z.S.) acted as an arbitrator when consensus was not attained.

### 4. Abstract or diagram

The data of the selected studies were organized in a figure 2.

	Ways to improve students' success
1	The effect of instructor experience on formative assessment
	Web-based assessment
	Improving clinical reasoning and internship skills
	OSCE
	Reflection
	Continuous review and revision
	Learning assessment
	Effect of formative assessment on summative assessment
	Motivation
	Convergent and divergent assessment
	Interactive and evolving formative assessment
	Classroom interaction (discussion, question, test and
	observation)
	Confirmation of longitudinal formative assessment
	Feedback
	Web-based self-assessment



### 5. Presentation of results

Data extraction was done in a narrative and is descriptive.

#### **Ethical Consideration**

Ethical concerns included acquiring the ethics code (IR.IUMS.FMD.REC.1400.395), ensuring integrity in library collection and data reporting.

### Results

2433 articles were found as a result of searching databases, and considering the inclusion criteria, 53 articles were finally included in this study. The reviewed articles were screened and reviewed according to the PRISMA Flow Figure and finally the articles were selected according to the inclusion criteria (Figure 3).



Figure 3. Searching steps in the study

The findings are organized in a table and in 16 areas: web-based self-assessment, feedback, confirmation of longitudinal formative assessment, classroom interaction, dynamic, interactive and evolving formative assessment, convergent and divergent assessment, motivation, effect of formative assessment on summative assessment, learning assessment, continuous review and revision, reflection, OSCE, improving clinical reasoning and internship skills, web-based assessment, the effect of instructor experience on formative assessment, and ways to improve students' success (Table 2 and 3).

Name of the journal	year of publication	Name of the author									
Medical Teacher	2001	S. Khan (19)									
Medical Teacher	2005	Rushton (20)									
The National Medical Journal of India	2005	Taradi SK (21)									
South African Medical Journal	2006	Burch V (22)									
Advances in Physiology Education	2006	Hudson JN (23)									
Advances in Health Sciences Education	2006	Krasne S (24)									
Education for Health	2007	Mkony CA (25)									
Academic emergency medicine	2008	Rudolph JW (26)									
BMC Medical Education	2008	Velan GM (27)									
Advances in health sciences education	2009	Carrillo-De-La-Peña MT (28)									
Learning, Media and Technology	2009	Hatzipanagos S (29)									
The 33rd International Convention MIPRO	2010	Gamulin J (30)									
The National medical journal of India	2010	Singh T (31)									
Teaching Learning in Medicine	2011	Kibble JD (32)									
Journal of dental education	2011	Lele SM (33)									
Innovations in Education Teaching International	2011	López-Pastor VM (34)									
Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education	2011	Nestel D (35)									
International Journal of Collaborative Research on Internal Medicine Public Health	2012	Hashim Z (36)									
Journal of Ayub Medical College Abbottabad	2012	Jain V (37)									
Kathmandu University Medical Journal	2012	Mondal R (38)									
Assessment Evaluation in Higher Education	2012	Weurlander M (39)									
Education for primary care	2012	Wiener-Ogilvie S (40)									
Medical teacher	2013	De Kleijn RA (41)									

Table 2. Characteristic s of included articles

Journal of Education Health	2012	Malhotra SD (42)			
promotion	2015				
Medical Teacher	2013	Pelgrim E (43)			
Ann Acad Med Singapore	2013	Tham KYJAAMS (44)			
Journal of anatomy	2014	Evans DJ (45)			
,BMC Medical Education	2014	Palmer E (46)			
J Pak Med Assoc	2014	Rauf A (47)			
Medical Teacher	2014	Schlegel EF (48)			
Gerontology & geriatrics education	2014	Williams BR (49)			
Medical education online	2015	Bijol V (50)			
.BMC medical education	2015	Deane RP (51)			
The Clinical Teacher	2015	Hadley L (52)			
BMC Medical Education	2015	Holden CA (53)			
BMC Medical Education	2015	G Ingham (54)			
Universitas Médica	2015	Lüdeke AKJUM M (55)			
National Journal of Physiology	2015	Srivastava TK (56)			
Journal of Clinical and Diagnostic	2010				
Research	2018	KeSavan KP (57)			
International Journal of Emerging	2020	L			
Technologies in Learning (iJET)	2020	Lajane H (58)			
Assessment & Evaluation in Higher	2020	$\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}}$ M (50)			
.Education	2020	Fage M (59)			
Journal of Education and Health	2021	Mondal H (60)			
Promotion	2021				
Nurse Education Today	2021	Msosa A (61)			
BMC Medical Education	2021	Fernández Ros N (62)			
Advances in physiology education	2021	Snekalatha S (63)			
Pakistan Journal of Medical Sciences	2022	Alam L (64)			
Journal of Datta Meghe Institute of	2022	Dathalt S (65)			
Medical Sciences University	2022	Fallak S (03)			
Quarterly journal of research and	2023	L: OK (66)			
planning in higher education	2023	LI OK (00)			
European Journal of Clinical	2023	Kalfsval I. (67)			
Pharmacology	2023	Kalfsvel L (67)			
BMC Medical Education	2024	Lin H-J (68)			
Academic Psychiatry	2024	Celano M (69)			
Advances in Medical Education and	2024	$\mathbf{A} \mathbf{two} \mathbf{HS} (70)$			
Practice	2024	Atwa n5 (70)			
Medical Forum Monthly	2024	Anjum S (71)			

Table 3. Areas of impact of formative assessment in medical education based on reviewed studies

Ways to improve students' success	The effect of instructor experience on formative assessment	Web-based assessment	Improving clinical reasoning and internship skills	OSCE	Reflection	Continuous review and revision	Learning assessment	Effect of formative assessment on summative assessment	Motivation	Convergent and divergent assessment	Interactive and evolving formative assessment	Classroom interaction (discussion, question, test and observation)	Confirmation of longitudinal formative assessment	Feedback	Web-based self-assessment	Author's Name - Year
		*												*	*	S. Khan – 2001 (19)
*	*											*		*		Rushton - 2005 (20)
*		*									*					Taradi SK – 2005 (21)
			*										*	*		Burch V – 2006 (22)
														*		Hudson JN - 2006 (23)
*								*								Krasne S – 2006 (24)

*													*		Mkony C - 2007 (25)
			*			*				*			*		Rudolph JW - 2008 (26)
*			*			*							*		Velan GM - 2008 (27)
*															Carrillo-De-La-Peña MT – 2009 (28)
		*													Hatzipanagos S – 2009 (29)
*															Gamulin J - 2010 (30)
			*												Singh T – 2010 (31)
*		*						*							Kibble JD – 2011 (32)
				*									*		Lele SMJJode – 2011 (33)
*						*									López-Pastor VM – 2011 (34)
				*									*		Nestel D - 2011 (35)
				*				*							Hashim Z – 2012 (36)
*													*		Jain V – 2012 (37)
				*											Mondal R – 2012 (38)
									*						Weurlander M – 2012 (39)
			*												Wiener-Ogilvie S – 2012 (40)
*		*													De Kleijn RA – 2013 (41)
				*											Malhotra SD - 2013 (42)
			*		*								*		Pelgrim E – 2013 (43)
			*												Tham KYJAAMS – 2013 (44)
*									*			*	*		Evans DJ – 2014 (45)
*	*	*											*		Palmer E - 2014(46)
													*		Rauf A, Shamim MS – 2014 (47)
								*			*				Schlegel EF - 2014 (48)
*															Williams BR - 2014 (49)
*								*							Bijol V – 2015 (50)
			*										*		Deane RP – 2015 (51)
					*								*		Hadley L – 2015 (52)
*															Holden CA – 2015 (53)
*			*						*				*		G Ingham - 2015 (54)
*													*		Lüdeke AKJUM – 2015 (55)
						*									Srivastava TK – 2015 (56)
*			*				*								KeSavan KP – 2018 (57)
*		*						*					*	*	Lajane H – 2020 (58)
*			*										*		Page M - 2020 (59)
*		*										*	*	*	Mondal H -2021- (60)
*			*										*		Msosa A - 2021 (61)
*		*	*					*					*		Fernández Ros N – 2021 (62)
*		*											*		Snekalatha S-2021 (63)
							*	*					*		Alam L – 2022 (64)
			*												Pathak S – 2022 (65)
												*			Li OK – 2023 (66)
							*						 *		Kalfsvel L – 2023 (67)
													 *		Lin H-J – 2024 (68)
													*		Celano M - 2024 (69)
								*					*		Atwa HS - 2024 (70)
								*					*		Anjum S – 2024 (71)

# Discussion

This study was therefore designed with the aim of investigating formative assessment and its impact on the education of students. Based on the findings of the scoping review regarding the effect of formative assessment on medical education, 16 conceptual areas were identified, including web-based self-assessment, feedback, confirmation of longitudinal formative assessment, classroom interaction, dynamic, interactive and evolving formative assessment, convergent and divergent assessment, motivation, effect of formative assessment on summative assessment, learning assessment, continuous review and revision, rethinking, OSCE, improving clinical and internship reasoning skills, web-based assessment, the effect of instructor experience on formative assessment, and ways to improve students' success. The highlights of these areas are illustrated below.

Web-based self-assessment is a tool for evaluating knowledge and interpreting it. In the S. Khan DAD et al.'s study aimed at evaluating web-based development based on seven knowledge-based questions for eight weeks, students could easily evaluate in educational environments or on PCs or focus on the computer site of the Medical College. To give feedback, the answers were provided immediately, and evaluation was used as an educational tool, the results of these tests are for self-assessment only and have no effect on the final evaluation (19). These results indicate the importance of using the web in student evaluation, including developmental evaluation.

Feedback is one of the main components of developmental evaluation and is defined as "information provided to the agent." Feedback enables students to progress over the course of training sites, provides students with feedback on educational effectiveness, identifies educational environments where students have not performed well, and timely corrective measures. And it does before the final evaluation (19). Accordingly, the focus of feedback for developmental evaluation relies on a combination of transmitters that create feedback, the most powerful unit effect on success (20-22). Experiences by various researchers confirm the importance of using evaluation to provide feedback to teachers and students during the course of training, which makes students aware of their knowledge and increases the motivation for learning.

The important thing in the developmental evaluation is it's longitudinal during a training course. In low -income areas such as developing countries, the usefulness of educational innovations is largely determined by the balance between needs and the benefits of evaluation. The results of Burch et al. showed that longitudinal evaluation of the course, with urgent feedback, can be successfully implemented in low - income areas, which increases the awareness of their capable students (22). Obviously, the use of multiple exposure to a real patient in the workplace is an increasing developmental evaluation strategy in the developed world that improves clinical reasoning skills in the face of patients.

One of the essential components of education that is highly emphasized is the interaction of the class between the lecturers and the learners. There are many aspects of classroom interaction such as discourse, questioning, testing, and observation that contribute to developmental evaluation (20). Based on the results of revision studies as developmental evaluation, it is a very interactive process in which skills and 66

understanding are not simply evaluated by the trainer, but on new insights in the conversation between the trainer and the students (26) Although the origin of revision and evaluation is different, they pursue the same goals.

Evaluation has always been a dynamic process. Schlegel et al. In their study, they used a game race as a useful tool for the developmental evaluation of large groups of students who competed in teams. The technology allowed students to take possession of their knowledge while interacting with teammates and assessing their test readiness. The elements of the game increased the pleasure and dynamics of the evaluation. This collaborative evaluation also provided feedback to the professors of the contest questions that helped provide a two-way evaluation for students and professors alike and deepen the learning and teaching processes. Improving the average academic performance scores in microbiology, pharmacology, pathology, and clinical medicine and increased student satisfaction data supports the fact that this game competition is a useful concept and tool for the developmental evaluation of large groups of students (48). Accordingly, developmental evaluation can be considered as a dynamic, interactive, and evolving process by emphasizing its complexity and the existence of a lecturer as facilitator.

The results of the studies indicate convergence and divergent evaluation. This means that developmental evaluation can be a "convergence" test, if a particular purpose is recognized or "divergent" and examine what is unknown. One of the key features of developmental evaluation in both class and empirical fields is that it gives students feedback to improve their current performance (26). Convergence evaluation evaluates whether the trainee can achieve predetermined goals. The divergent developmental evaluation deeply examines what the trainee thinks and how he creates specific behaviors in a scenario (37).

Examination of texts and experiences shows that having sufficient motivation can be a stimulus for learning and its effectiveness. Although motivation is influenced by several factors, the results of studies show that developmental evaluation plays an important role in motivating learners. Weurlander et al (39). Evans et al. acknowledge that developmental evaluations are important tools for students' learning in three areas: motivation to study, awareness of their learning, and impacts on learning, both in processes and consequences. Technical evaluation in different ways affects students' motivation to study. For many students, developmental evaluations act as external stimuli. In addition to the impact on motivation, developmental evaluation can give students feedback on their progress, which in turn informs them of their learning (45). According to the results of these studies, it can be said that, if well -designed, they can improve students' motivation and interest in learning.

Technical evaluation is specifically intended to provide feedback on performance in order to improve and accelerate learning. The results of developmental evaluation are valuable not in terms of completing a course, but in terms of students' understanding of the curriculum. Therefore, it can help students plan for future learning activities (41). And improve performance in the final evaluation (24). In fact, it can be said that the developmental evaluation of a hidden variable helps performance in compressing evaluations. The results of other researchers' studies also confirm that the purpose of the developmental evaluation is to provide information that enhances students' learning and accelerates competence (32, 36). Learning evaluation is one of the other concepts that are repeated in the texts, which means that evaluation has sufficient impacts of removal so that the curriculum is actual. The results of the studies also show that the developmental evaluation with timely, relevant and supportive feedback (not just scores) can help improve learning results, and if the evaluation is better to enhance learning results, it can be argued that developmental evaluation is the most important action. Is the evaluation (27, 34, 55). While compressing evaluation is "learning" and it does not reflect on learning in itself, because it focuses on getting better scores and thinking regardless of "learning gaps". The developmental evaluation is "for learning" and enriches the learner's experience and ultimately improves them (57). In a study of first -year medical students, online technical evaluations along with online classes are valuable learning activities that provide them with feedback on learning and encourage them to study further. Students wanted to take optional anonymous tests and thought that the online test could be an alternative to the face -to -face assessment test (60). Finally, what should be evaluated in a classroom is the number of learners who help with the developmental evaluation of this learning. Continuous review and review of the basic concepts extracted in this study means that their importance is not hidden. A review of educational goals during and ending a class or training requires evaluation. The results of the studies also show that the focus of revision as a developmental evaluation is to study frameworks that cause the functional gap. This approach is like a convergent developmental evaluation that evaluates whether the trainee can achieve predetermined goals. It is like a divergent developmental evaluation that deeply examines what the trainee thinks and how he creates specific behaviors in a scenario. As part of a developmental assessment, the reaction stage provides valuable insights into what was more exciting or painful for trainees, allowing the instructor to focus on his goals and inclusive goals (27, 34). Developmental assessment is an effective way to enhance students' learning and develop their skills and competencies and must form part of the new educational performance.

The conceptual reflection is almost unknown and, of course, important in evaluation. Pelgrims et al. Define rethinking in the developmental evaluation of two rethinks in the developmental evaluation: reflection on performance and reflection on feedback. Recipients reflect their performance by monitoring their performance before receiving external feedback. Whereas, after receiving feedback, they reflect on the feedback to make a comment on that feedback (43). And the General Medicine Council (GMC) has acknowledged that it is a key component of rethinking based on structured feedback (52). According to the results of these studies, it can be said that developmental evaluation and feedback are powerful tools to change the behavior of trainees when they are associated with intellect.

Various tools are used to evaluate development and compression, one of the most practical and reliable (OSCE) or objective structured clinical examinations that have been

widely used in medical and non -medical fields for more than three decades (35, 42). Studies of texts and experiences show that despite these benefits, this type of evaluation also has disadvantages, including time-consuming and not being used in some cases, including pediatric medicine (36, 38). The study of the texts and results of the studies shows the importance of the role of developmental evaluation in improving clinical and internship reasoning skills. Burch et al. based on the results of their study, most students attribute improvement of clinical reasoning skills to the use of patients, which is the basis of developmental evaluation strategy, and clinical educators also acknowledged the educational value of longitudinal structural evaluation. And they approved the use of exposure to patients as a valid way to monitor student progress during the internship (22). Rudolph et al. Also states that the developmental evaluation of the trainees in two ways: 1) form skills and knowledge through feedback. 2) Helps develop professional identity through social interaction of learning conversations. While both educators and students often understand the main curriculum (26). It can be said that, despite existing limitations, OSCE is a valuable evaluation method for improving skills of clinical reasoning.

Today, the development and development of technology based educational technologies encourages lecturers and students to use and use them in education and evaluation. So, web -based developmental evaluation tools have emerged as valuable resources to improve academic performance and enhance motivation and self -learning among the new generation of learners (50). Khalid S and colleagues are on general medical clinical courses where students work in various educational environments. A web -based developmental evaluation system allows students to oversee their academic achievement. Course managers also monitor the performance of student groups in different educational environments compared to the entire group. The analysis of the test enables measuring correct awareness and identifies incorrect information (19). The use of web -based developmental evaluation through clinical cases helps improve knowledge acquisition. Students with previous average performance appear to be more profitable from this learning tool (62).

Having experience plays an important role in a person's success and performance. In developmental evaluation, instructional experience is also an important factor. Ruston says an experienced lecturer has skills, knowledge, attitudes, standards and expertise in evaluation skills that help his / her professional knowledge. It also creates self-efficacy in the key aspects of the profession. The trainer can spend more time providing feedback to students (20). Accordingly, educational institutions should strive to increase the experience of instructors in the developmental evaluation to get better learning results. The success and learning of learners is influenced by several factors. Over the past few decades, educational researchers have argued that one way to improve students' success is to increase exams. This has a significant impact on the student's motivation and helps them develop the skills needed to become lifelong learners (21). In confirmation of this case, Velan et al. Have stated that Using new methods of evaluation requires more responsibility in the process of developing appropriate learning strategies for continuous development. However, success in this requires the use of professors to review and adapt to the new teaching and evaluation method (27, 55).

### **Strengths and Limitations**

The study successfully identifies 16 conceptual areas related to formative assessment, such as web-based self-assessment, feedback mechanisms, and classroom interaction. This categorization provides valuable insights into how formative assessment can be effectively implemented in medical education. The study addresses ethical concerns related to data collection and reporting, ensuring that the research adheres to ethical standards in educational research.

This study it has limitations that should be considered when interpreting its findings and implications for practice.

#### Conclusion

This study is the result of a scoping review regarding formative assessment in medical education. Based on the findings of this review, formative assessment and student education have mutual effects. In such a way that the instructors' experience is effective on formative assessment and formative assessment is effective on the quality of education by providing mutual feedback to students and instructors. Formative assessment is an assessment for learning and enriches the learner's experience. Among the methods of formative assessment in medical education, we can mention web-based self-assessment, competitive games, feedback, continuous revision and review, rethinking, OSCE, and web-based assessment. The advantages of using formative assessment include dynamic and evolutionary assessment, interaction in the classroom, creating motivation for students, positive impact on summative assessment, performing divergent and convergent assessment, improving student success and improving clinical and internship reasoning skills. By integrating these strategies into your teaching practice, you can create a dynamic learning environment that supports ongoing student development and fosters a culture of continuous improvement.

#### Acknowledgements

We are grateful to Dr. Somayeh Delavari for her sincere cooperation.

#### **Financial Support**

This study received funding from Iran University of Medical Sciences (grant No.1400-1-4-21057). The funders had no role in study design, data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the document.

# **Conflict of interest**

There was no conflict of interest.

# **Author Contributions**

Conceptualization, Investigation, Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing: ZS, ZH, FK, Visualization, Data curation, Formal analysis, Project administration: FK, Funding acquisition, Supervision, Validation: ZS, Methodology: ZH, Resources, Software: FK, ZH

# References

 Mokhtari Nouri J, Ebadi A, Alhani F, Rejeh N. Importance of rolemodel teaching in nursing students' education. IJCE. 2011 Feb 10;3(4):149-54.

2. Pourfarzad Z, Vanaki Z, Memarian RJHH. Effect of Situational Leadership in Clinical Education on Communication Competency of Nursing Students. Havat. 2009;15(2).

3. ZAMANIFARD F, KESHTIARAY N, MIRSHAH JSE. THE INVESTIGATION OF THE EXPERIENCE OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS IN ISFAHAN OF THE DESCRIPTIVE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM. 2010.

4. AzitaDelfan Azari MA, Kamiyan, Khazaei Kouhpar JS. Identification and validation of problem solving curriculum components for nursing students education. Research in Curriculum Planning. 2020;Vol 17. No 38 .doi: 10.30486/jsre.2020.1878461.1460

5. Aronson L, Niehaus B, Hill-Sakurai L, Lai C, O'Sullivan PS. A comparison of two methods of teaching reflective ability in Year 3 medical students. Med Educ. 2012 Aug;46(8):807-14.

doi:10.1111/j.1365-2923.2012.04299.x

6. Emdadi S, Amani F, Soltanian AR, Imani B, Maghsoud A, Shojaeei S, et al. A Study of Reliability and Validity of the Teacher Evaluation Form and Factors Affecting Students Evaluation of Teachers. SDME. 2013;10(1):87-94.

7. Khademi Zare H, Fakhrzad MBJQjor, education pih. Integration of collaborative management and fuzzy systems for evaluating of studentsâ educational performance. IRPHE. 2023;19(3):23-40.

8. BORHAN MK. EVALUATION OF CLINICAL SKILLS IN QAZVIN FACULTY OF DENTISTRY THROUGH THE STUDENTS AND TEACHERS'POINTS OF VIEW'S. J. Qazvin Univ. Med. Sci. Health Serv. 2002.

9. Bazargan-Harandi A. Educational evaluation: concepts, models and operational processes. UTP; 2008.

10. Haghani NJJRFL. Analysis of the learning progress tests based on electronic tests in Passwort Deutsch. JFLR. 2006;33:37-48.

11. Baker KMJALiHE. Peer review as a strategy for improving students' writing process. Act. Learn. High. Educ. 2016;17(3):179-92. DOI: 10.1177/1469787416654794

12. Boyce AS, McGowan BLJAJoE. An exploration of two novice evaluation educators' experiences developing and implementing introduction to evaluation courses. AJE. 2019;40(1):119-36. doi: 10.1177/1098214018778812

13.Li H, Xiong Y, Hunter CV, Guo X, Tywoniw RJA, Education EiH.Does peer assessment promote student learning? A meta-analysis. ASSESSEVALHIGHEDU.2020;45(2):193-211.doi:10.1080/02602938.2019.1620679

14. Rezaeian MJJoRUoMS. An introduction to scoping review. JRUMS. 2018;17(4):291-2.

15. Arksey H, O'Malley LJIjosrm. Scoping studies: towards a methodological framework. Int. J. Soc. Res. Methodol. 2005;8(1):19-32. doi: 10.1080/1364557032000119616

16. Mosadeghrad AM, Afshari M, Karimi FJTUoMSJ. Methodology of conceptual review in the health system. TUMJ. 2022;80(1):1-15.

17. Grant MJ, Booth AJHi, journal I. A typology of reviews: an analysis of 14 review types and associated methodologies. HILJ. 2009;26(2):91-108. doi: 10.1111/j.1471-1842. 009.00848.x

 Pourahmadi M, Delavari S, Koes B, Keshtkar A, Nazemipour M, Mansournia MAJBjosm. How to formulate appropriate review questions for systematic reviews in sports medicine and rehabilitation? BJSM. 2021. p. 1246-7 doi: 10.1136/bjsports-2021-104315

19. S. Khan DAD, Janesh K. Gupta, Khalid. Formative selfassessment using multiple true-false questions on the Internet: feedback according to confidence about correct knowledge. Med. Teach. 2001;23(2):158-63. doi: 10.1080/01421590031075

20. Rushton AJMt. Formative assessment: a key to deep learning? Med. Teach. 2005;27(6):509-13. doi: 10.1080/01421590500129159 21. Taradi SK, Taradi M, Radic KJTNMJoI. Integration of online formative assessments into medical education: Experience from University of Zagreb Medical School. NMJI. 2005;18(1):39.

22. Burch V, Seggie J, Gary NJSAMJ. Formative assessment promotes learning in undergraduate clinical clerkships. SAMJ. 2006;96(3):430-3.

23. Hudson JN, Bristow DJAiPE. Formative assessment can be fun as well as educational. Adv Physiol Educ. 2006;30(1):33-7. doi: 10.1152/advan.00040.2005

24. Krasne S, Wimmers PF, Relan A, Drake TAJAiHSE. Differential effects of two types of formative assessment in predicting performance of first-year medical students. Adv Health Sci Educ. 2006;11:155-71. doi: 10.1007/s10459-005-5290-

25. Mkony C, Mbembati N, Hamudu N, Pallangyo KJEfH. Introduction of regular formative assessment to enhance learnning for clinical students at Muhimbili University College, Tanzania. Health Educ. 2007;20(3):129.

26. Rudolph JW, Simon R, Raemer DB, Eppich WJJAem. Debriefing as formative assessment: closing performance gaps in medical education. AEM. 2008;15(11):1010-6. doi: 10.1111/j.1553-2712.2008.00248.x

27. Velan GM, Jones P, McNeil HP, Kumar RKJBME. Integrated online formative assessments in the biomedical sciences for medical students: benefits for learning. BMC Med Educ. 2008;8:1-11. doi:10.1186/1472-6920-8-52

28. Carrillo-De-La-Peña MT, Bailles E, Caseras X, Martínez À, Ortet G, Pérez JJAihse. Formative assessment and academic achievement in pregraduate students of health sciences. Adv Health Sci Educ. 2009;14:61-7. doi: 10.1007/s10459-007-9086-

29. Hatzipanagos S, Warburton SJL, Media, Technology. Feedback as dialogue: Exploring the links between formative assessment and social software in distance learning. LEARN MEDIA TECHNOL. 2009;34(1):45-59. doi: 10.1080/17439880902759919

30. Gamulin J, Gugić J, Gamulin O, editors. Improving classroom teaching in higher education environment using web-based formative assessment. The 33rd International Convention MIPRO; 2010: IEEE.

31. Singh T, Sharma M. Mini-clinical examination (CEX) as a tool for formative assessment. NMJI. 2010;23(2):100-2.

32. Kibble JD, Johnson TR, Khalil MK, Nelson LD, Riggs GH, Borrero JL, et al. Insights gained from the analysis of performance and participation in online formative assessment. TLM. 2011;23(2):125-9. doi: 10.1080/10401334.2011.561687

33. Lele SMJJode. A mini-OSCE for formative assessment of diagnostic and radiographic skills at a dental college in India. JDE. 2011;75(12):1583-9. doi: 10.1002/j.0022-0337.2011.75.12.tb05218.

34. López-Pastor VM, Castejón J, Sicilia-Camacho A, Navarro-Adelantado V, Webb GJIE, International T. The process of creating a crossuniversity network for formative and shared assessment in higher education in Spain and its potential applications. IETI. 2011;48(1):79-90. doi: 10.1080/14703297.2010.543768

35. Nestel D, Kneebone R, Nolan C, Akhtar K, Darzi AJA, Education EiH. Formative assessment of procedural skills: students' responses to the objective structured clinical examination and the integrated performance procedural instrument. Assess. Eval. High. Educ. 2011;36(2):171-83. doi: 10.1080/02602930903221469

36. Hashim Z, Miller A, Fahim NJIJoCRoIM, Health P. The exam skills workshop as formative assessment for medical students. IJCRIMPH. 2012;4(5):578.

37. Jain V, Agrawal V, Biswas SJJoAMCA. Use of formative assessment as an educational tool. JAMC. 2012;24(3-4):68-70.

38. Mondal R, Sarkar S, Nandi M, Hazra AJKUMJ. Comparative analysis between objective structured clinical examination (OSCE) and conventional examination (CE) as a formative evaluation tool in pediatrics in semester examination for final MBBS students. KUMJ. 2012;10(1):53-6.

39. Weurlander M, Söderberg M, Scheja M, Hult H, Wernerson AJA, Education EiH. Exploring formative assessment as a tool for learning:

students' experiences of different methods of formative assessment. Assess.
Eval. High. Educ. 2012;37(6):747-60. doi: 10.1080/02602938.2011.572153
40. Wiener-Ogilvie S, Begg DJEfpc. Formative assessment of GP

trainees' clinical skills. Educ. Prim. Care. 2012;23(2):101-6. doi: 10.1080/14739879.2012.11494084

41. De Kleijn RA, Bouwmeester RA, Ritzen MM, Ramaekers SP, Van Rijen HVJMt. Students' motives for using online formative assessments when preparing for summative assessments. Med. Teach. 2013;35(12):e1644-e50. doi: 10.3109/0142159X.2013.826794

42. Malhotra SD, Shah KN, Patel VJJJoE, promotion H. Objective structured practical examination as a tool for the formative assessment of practical skills of undergraduate students in pharmacology. JEHP. 2013;2(1):53. doi: 10.4103/2277-9531.119040

43. Pelgrim E, Kramer A, Mokkink H, Van der Vleuten CJMT. Reflection as a component of formative assessment appears to be instrumental in promoting the use of feedback; an observational study. Med. Teach. 2013;35(9):772-8. doi: 10.3109/0142159X.2013.801939

44. Tham KYJAAMS. Observer-reporter-interpreter-managereducator (ORIME) framework to guide formative assessment of medical students. Ann. Acad. Med. Singap. 2013;42(11):603-7.

45. Evans DJ, Zeun P, Stanier RAJ. Motivating student learning using a formative assessment journey. Journal of anatomy. J. Anat. 2014;224(3):296-303. doi: 10.1111/joa.12117

46. Palmer E, Devitt PJBME. The assessment of a structured online formative assessment program: a randomised controlled trial. BMC Med. Educ. 2014;14:1-10.

47. Rauf A, Shamim MS, Aly SM, Chundrigar T, Alam SNJJPMA. Formative assessment in undergraduate medical education: concept, implementation and hurdles. JPMA. 2014;64(64):72-5.

48. Schlegel EF, Selfridge NJJMt. Fun, collaboration and formative assessment: Skinquizition, a class wide gaming competition in a medical school with a large class. Med. Teach. 2014;36(5):447-9. doi: 10.3109/0142159X.2014.888409

49. Williams BR, Woodby LL, Bailey FA, Burgio KLJG, education g. Formative evaluation of a multi-component, education-based intervention to improve processes of end-of-life care. Gerontol. Geriatr. Educ. 2014;35(1):4-22. doi: 10.1080/02701960.2013.858334

50. Bijol V, Byrne-Dugan CJ, Hoenig MPJMeo. Medical student webbased formative assessment tool for renal pathology. Med. Educ. Online. 2015;20(1):26765. doi: 10.3402/meo.v20.26765

51. Deane RP, Joyce P, Murphy DJJBme. Team Objective Structured Bedside Assessment (TOSBA) as formative assessment in undergraduate Obstetrics and Gynaecology: a cohort study. BMC Med. Educ. 2015;15:1-12. doi: 10.1186/s12909-015-0456-5

52. Hadley L, Black D, Welch J, Reynolds P, Penlington CJTCT. Encouraging formative assessments of leadership for foundation doctors. Clin Teach. 2015;12(4):231-5. doi: 10.1111/tct.12289

53. Holden CA, Collins VR, Anderson CJ, Pomeroy S, Turner R, Canny BJ, et al. formative evaluation of medical curriculum enhancement with men's health teaching and learning. BMC Med. Educ. 2015. doi: 10.1186/s12909-015-0489-9

54. Ingham G, Fry J, Morgan S, Ward BJBME. ARCADO-Adding random case analysis to direct observation in workplace-based formative assessment of general practice registrars. BMC Med. Educ. 2015;15:1-8. doi: 10.1186/s12909-015-0503-

55. Lüdeke AKJUM. Effective Peer-Feedback as a Strategy for Formative Assessment in Medical Education. univ. med. 2015;56(3):312-22.

56. Srivastava TK, Waghmare LS, Vagha SJJNJoP, Pharmacy, Pharmacology. Revisiting feedback practices in formative assessment of Indian Medical Schools. NJPPP. 2015;5(1):1. doi: 10.5455/njppp.2015.5.020820141

57. KeSavan KP, Palappallil DSJJoC, Research D. Effectiveness of formative assessment in motivating and improving the outcome of summative

assessment in pharmacology for medical undergraduates. JCDR. 2018;12.(5). doi: 10.7860/JCDR/2018/34533.11527

58. Lajane H, Gouifrane R, Qaisar R, Noudmi F, Lotfi S, Chemsi G, Radid MJIJoETiL. Formative e-assessment for Moroccan Polyvalent nurses training: Effects and challenges. iJET. 2020;15(14):236-51. doi: 10.3991/ijet.v15i14.13821

59. Page M, Gardner J, Booth JJA, Education EiH. Validating written feedback in clinical formative assessment. Assess. Eval. High. Educ. 2020;45(5):697-713. doi: 10.1080/02602938.2019.1691974

60. Mondal H, Sahoo MR, Samantaray R, Mondal SJJoE, Promotion H. Medical students' perception on the usefulness of online formative assessment: a single-center, mixed-method, pilot study. JEHP. 2021;10(1):243. doi: 10.4103/jehp.jehp\_1198\_20

61. Msosa A, Bruce J, Crouch RJNET. Effect of a formative assessment intervention on nursing skills laboratory learning in a resource-constrained country. Nurse Educ. Today. 2021;97:104677. doi: 10.1016/j.nedt.2020.104677

62. Fernández Ros N, Lucena F, Iñarrairaegui M, Landecho MF, Sunsundegui P, Jordán-Iborra C, et al. Web-based formative assessment through clinical cases: role in pathophysiology teaching. BMC Med. Educ.2021 Apr 30;21(1):249. doi: 10.1186/s12909-021-02691-y

63. Snekalatha S, Marzuk SM, Meshram SA, Maheswari KU, Sugapriya G, Sivasharan KJAipe. Medical students' perception of the reliability, usefulness and feasibility of unproctored online formative assessment tests. Adv. Physiol. Educ. 2021;45(1):84-8. doi: 10.1152/advan.00178.2020

64. Alam L, Alam M, Shafi MN-u-H, Khan S, Khan ZMJPJoMS. Meaningful in-training and end-of-training assessment: The need for implementing a continuous workplace-based formative assessment system in our training programs. Pak. J. Med. Sci. 2022;38(5):1132. doi: 10.12669/pjms.38.5.5921

65. Pathak S, Patel P, Rasania M, Modi PJJoDMIoMSU. Mini Clinical Evaluation Exercises (mini CEX) as Formative Assessment Tool in Pediatric Postgraduate Education: Its Feasibility and Acceptability. JDMIMSU. 2022;17(4):825-9. doi: 10.4103/jdmimsu.jdmimsu\_47\_22

66. Li OK, Abd Jalil KF, Hisham HD, Mohamad Kasim NS, Idris F, Adam SKJMJoM, Sciences H. Lecturers' Beliefs and Perceptions on Formative Assessment and Their Practice in Training Medical Students in a Malaysian University. MJMHS. 2023 Nov 2;19. doi:10.47836/mjmhs.19.s12.4

67. Kalfsvel L, Peeters L, Hoek K, Bethlehem C, van der Sijs I, van der Kuy P, et al. Does formative assessment help students to acquire prescribing skills? Eur. J. Clin. Pharmacol. 2023;79(4):533-40. doi: 10.1007/s00228-023-03456-w

68. Lin H-J, Wu J-H, Lin W-H, Nien K-W, Wang H-T, Tsai P-J, Chen C-YJBME. Using ACGME milestones as a formative assessment for the internal medicine clerkship: a consecutive two-year outcome and follow-up after graduation. BMC Med. Educ. 2024;24(1):238. doi: 10.1186/s12909-024-05108-8

69. Celano M, Armani MH, Holton J, Miller LJJAP. Family OSCEs in child and adolescent psychiatry training: formative evaluation involving adolescent simulated patients. Acad. Psychiatry. 2024;48(3):258-62.. doi: 10.1007/s40596-023-01896-1

 Atwa HS, Potu BK, Fadel RA, Deifalla AS, Fatima A, Othman MA, et al. Implementing Formative Assessment in Human Anatomy Practical Sessions: Medical Students' Perception and Effect on Final Exam Performance. Adv. medical educ. pract. 2024:551-63. doi: 10.2147/AMEP.S465384

 Anjum S, Ather CAA, Latif M, Sulehria SB, Hiraj GM, Ashraf N, editors. Relationship of Formative Assessment with Summative Assessment among Final Year Medical Students. Med. Forum Mon. 2024 May 30 (Vol. 35, No. 5). doi:10.60110/medforum.350501