# Integrated Clinical Education – Planned Learning Experience (PLEX)

**PLEX #: 58**  
**PLEX Title:** Linking the lower quarter screen to examination process  
**Date created:** 10/1/2015

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## Brief Description of the Planned Learning Experience:

Students will perform a lower quarter screen (LQS) on a patient to assess for red flags and examine all possible causes of patient's symptoms. The LQS includes:
- exam of neuro status (myotomoes, dermatomes, DRs, UMN vs LMN, and referred vs. radicular pain
- assessment of lower thoracic, L-spine, SI joint, knee, foot and ankle

## Objectives

1. Students will demonstrate an efficient and thorough performance of a lower quarter screen.
2. Students will link the screening process to patient complaints.
3. Students will utilize the results of the LQS to move forward with their plan of care for the patient.
4. Students will appreciate and recognize when results of the LQS may indicate need for referral.

## Description of Actual Learning Experience

1. Students will choose an appropriate patient and complete a lower quarter screen as part of the examination process.
2. If possible, students and CI will discuss the results of the LQS and if appropriate, discuss plans for further musculoskeletal examination.
3. After the patient encounter students and CI will discuss information obtained, how that information relates to the patient complaints and/or possible differential diagnoses. This can lead in to a discussion also on appropriate referral

## Anticipated time to complete

1. Patient examination: 30 to 45 minutes
2. Discussion: 30 minutes
Total Time: 60 to 75 minutes

## Recommended Preparation or Readings

MSK I-III course packets

Modified with permission from Duke University DPT