**Initial item pool (n = 59 items)**

Generated from qualitative input + expert content review
Administered to N = 270 medical students

**Pre-EFA item screening (59 → 53 items)**

Very low variance (SD ≈ ≤ 0.70)
Pronounced floor effects (>50–75%)
Corrected item–total correlation r < .10
Excluded: X2, X4, X6, X17, X22, X27

**Factorability check (53 items)**

KMO = 0.91
Bartlett's $\chi^2$(1378) = 8304.79, p < .001

**Initial EFA (53 items)**

Principal axis factoring, oblique rotation
Parallel analysis suggested 5 factors
Decision: 4-factor model

**ative EFA-based item reduction**

Primary loading ≥ 0.50
Cross-loading ≤ 0.30
Δ loading ≥ 0.20
Communality $h^2$ ≥ 0.30

**Reduced candidate set (4-factor working model)**

Target: balanced factors
Candidate set ≈ 20 items (5 × 4 factors)

**Final EFA solution (n = 18 items; 4 factors)**

F1–F3: 5 items each; F4: 3 items
RMSR ≈ 0.03 | TLI ≈ 0.95 | RMSEA ≈ 0.054

**Reliability and Rasch PCM confirmation (18 items)**

McDonald's ω: F1–3 = 0.86–0.89; F4 = 0.67
PCM EAP reliability: F1–3 = 0.83–0.88; F4 = 0.65
Test Information Function (TIF)
Local Independence (Yen's q3)