<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method for assessment</th>
<th>Example of skills evaluated</th>
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| Direct observation                                     | • Optimization of the mass spectrometer  
• Assessment of system suitability checks  
• Preparation of reagents, calibrators and QCs  
• Glassware washing  
• Maintenance of instrument and ancillary equipment  
• Steps to avoid contamination during sample preparation  
• Start-up and shutdown, emergency shutdown of instrumentation  
• Contacting technical support  
• Performing repeat injections  
• Determination of run acceptability  
• Peak identification and manual correction of peak integration  
• Use of PPE and engineering controls |
| Supervisory review of reports and documentation         | • Intermediate test records  
• Worksheets  
• Trend files (e.g., QC, SST)  
• Recording/reporting of blind sample or proficiency testing results  
• Troubleshooting records  
• Maintenance records |
| Testing of ‘unknown’ samples                           | • Proficiency testing materials  
• Previously analyzed clinical samples  
• Blind samples |
| Written evaluation                                     | • Troubleshooting scenarios  
• Correction of quality failures  
• Performing complex maintenance procedures  
• Calculations (e.g., dilution, hydrolysis, ion ratios)  
• Identifying problems that need to be escalated to lab leadership for further review  
• Backup testing procedures  
• Safety practices related to instrument, equipment and sample prep  
• Data review of reports from failed runs  
• Corrective action for specific instrument error messages (e.g. nitrogen failure, needle malfunction, low/high system pressure, etc.)  
• Corrective action for software peak integration problems involving interference, missed peaks or partial injections  
• Corrective action for carryover or high background due to contamination |