MRCP(UK) PACES Clinical Examination

INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS AT STATIONS 1 AND 3

Thank you for taking part in this examination.

Where exam is taking place:

When (day, date and time):

Phone contact number of host examiner/organiser:
General information about the exam

Candidates take the MRCP(UK) exam two or more years after qualifying as a doctor. Those who pass become Members of the Royal College of Physicians and can continue training to become a consultant.

The exam, called a cycle, lasts two hours, and there are five different assessment areas, called stations.

Your station is designed to test the candidate’s ability and medical skills.

What will happen before the exam?

- You will be contacted by the host examiner and told what the physical examination will involve.
- Remember to keep this confidential before and after the exam.
- You will not be required to give any history to the candidates.
- You will be told how many cycles you will be involved in.
- You will have the opportunity to clarify any points with the examiner before the exam.

If for any reason you are unable to help on the agreed day, it is important that you let us know immediately. We will need to choose and train a substitute.
What happens on the day?

You will be told the time and place beforehand. Read the information carefully. The exam *may not* be held in the place you attend for hospital appointments.

- Arrive in plenty of time and switch off your mobile phone.
- **Be prepared to be physically examined.** Please wear clothes that make it easy for the candidates to access the relevant part of your body.
- You will meet the two examiners, both senior doctors, who will explain what the candidates will do and what the physical examination involves. If you are unsure about anything, ask before or after the exam but not while it is taking place.
- The examiners will examine you to agree what the candidate should find.
- Please ask if you would like a chaperone to be present.
- Examiners and candidates clean their hands between each examination.

What happens during the exam?

- The examiners will show the candidate a short written instruction telling them to examine a particular area (for example the chest or the joints).
- Candidates are given a limited time to examine you. Please be ready to be seen as soon as they arrive.
- Candidates should be gentle and considerate with you.
- Candidates and examiners will maintain your privacy.
- The examiners usually don’t speak while the candidates are examining you. They will question them after the physical examination has ended.
- You might have to wait between candidates. Bring something to read or a personal MP3 player.
What else should I know?

• Occasionally trainee examiners or observers may be present for part of the exam. They will be introduced to you and their role explained.

• Do not be alarmed by anything you hear from the candidates. Their comments may not relate to your case, or may be completely wrong!

• Candidates may be asked about other clinical matters such as tests or possible complications. Again, anything they say may not apply to you and may be wrong.

• If you are worried about anything, please ask the examiners when no candidates are present.

• Nurses are available if you need help with dressing or undressing, going to the toilet, taking medication or if you have other problems.

• Refreshments will be provided. Please let us know beforehand if you have any special physical or dietary needs.

• We will refund any reasonable travel expenses. You will be given a claim form on the day of the exam. (Please provide receipts).

• Please let us know if you’d like us to book transport or arrange parking.

Thank you again for taking part in this important exam. We hope you have an interesting and enjoyable day.

If for any reason you are unable to help on the agreed day, it is important that you let us know *immediately*. We will need to choose and train a substitute.