



**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
AND
REGULATIONS
FOR
MRCPSYCH EXAMINATIONS**

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Please note that the MRCPsych Examinations can be taken by:

- Doctors in a PMETB Training Programme
- Doctors in the UK who are not in a PMETB approved training programme
- Doctors from the EU who are working or have worked Overseas
- Non-EU doctors who are working or have worked Overseas

All applicants must meet the eligibility criteria below.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA EFFECTIVE 1ST JANUARY 2009

REGISTRATION

All applicants must be registered with the General Medical Council or equivalent body prior to entry as well as up to and including the date of sitting all examinations.

1. MRCPsych WRITTEN PAPERS

The mandatory requirements regarding post-foundation (UK) and post internship (where applicable) whole time equivalent experience in Psychiatry for entry to sit MRCPsych Papers 1, 2 and 3 are:

a) Mandatory **12 months** post foundation (UK) and post internship where applicable whole time equivalent experience in Psychiatry by the date of sitting MRCPsych Written Papers. Posts must be part of a programme of training:

(i) Approved by PMETB

OR

(ii) Recognised by the Hospital (Trusts where applicable) as incorporating within contractual arrangements specified time and funding for educational training. Job plans must include dedicated time for academic and educational activities such as attending journal clubs, grand rounds, attendance at an MRCPsych course or equivalent, study leave and regular weekly educational supervision.

Post Requirements

- Individual posts can be of either 4 or 6 months duration.
- Posts **must be** made up as follows:

A 12 month post in General Adult Psychiatry

OR

A 6 month post in Old Age Psychiatry and a 6 month post of General Adult Psychiatry

OR

A combination of 4 month posts in General Adult or Old Age Psychiatry but with a minimum of 6 months in General Adult Psychiatry.

The composition of a post in General Adult Psychiatry may include working in the following areas/services for 4/6 months:

- Assertive Outreach
- Crisis Resolution
- Inpatient Psychiatry
- Home Treatment
- Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU)
- Early Intervention in Psychosis Service
- Community Psychiatry

b) For posts within a programme of training approved by PMETB

Successful completion of Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) documented on application form by the College Tutor.

c) For all other posts

(i) Successful completion of an Assessment Portfolio demonstrating achievement of equivalent competencies (see Appendix 1) to those defined in the ARCP documented on the application form.

AND

(ii) Sponsorship from Training Lead (UK) or Head of Department of Psychiatry (overseas) AND Director of Medical Education or equivalent.

Important Notes

- All applicants require sponsorship to sit the examinations.
- Papers can be taken in any order. However applicants are strongly advised to follow the recommended timeframes to apply for Papers 2 and 3 as these reflect the standards being assessed by each paper. In addition, to make full use of a pass in Paper 3 (635 days), candidates should consider delaying Paper 3 until they have nearly completed the eligibility requirements for the CASCs.

Recommended Timeframes

Paper 1: mandatory 12 months

Paper 2: 18-24 months

Paper 3: 18-30 months

- A pass in Papers 1 and 2 is permanent.
- A pass in Paper 3 can be banked for 635 days from the date of publication of results for all candidates. The date of publication counting as day 1.
No exceptions are made to this time limit.
- **Paper 3 Passes in 2008**
ALL applicants who passed Paper 3 in 2008 will have the following validity dates honoured (as published on result letters)
March 2008 passes are valid until 02/01/2010
August 2008 passes are valid until 15/06/2010
- Doctors in PMETB posts unsure of their psychiatric specialty should check with the Postgraduate deanery at the point of registering or check the Form R Registration form.
- **Recognised General Adult Sub-specialties**
 - Addictions
 - Liaison Psychiatry
 - Peri-Natal Psychiatry
 - Neuropsychiatry
 - Rehabilitation
 - Eating Disorders

Note: Foundation Programme, Trust Grade and pilot ST posts do not count towards eligibility.

Re-sitting Papers

Unsuccessful candidates may re-sit Papers. There is no limit to the number of attempts provided that a valid sponsorship form is submitted for each attempt.

2. MRCPsych CLINICAL ASSESSMENT OF SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES (CASC)

Training Requirements

- a) **30 months** whole time equivalent post foundation/internship experience in Psychiatry by the time of sitting the CASC to include the following:
30 months in Psychiatry
OR
A minimum of 24 months in Psychiatry
PLUS
6 months in another medical specialty

Psychiatry training must be comprised of the following:

- A minimum of 12 months General Adult Psychiatry.
- *A minimum of 12 months of two/three **other** psychiatric specialties which could include:
 - Old Age Psychiatry
 - Forensic Psychiatry
 - Psychotherapy
 - Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
 - Learning Disability
 - Recognised sub-specialty of General Adult Psychiatry (listed on page 4) **

*For non-UK doctors, all specialty posts need to be full time or, if combined with General Adult Psychiatry, have at least 75% of the trainee's duties in the relevant specialty.

**A doctor who has already completed 6 months in a sub-specialty of General Adult Psychiatry and has counted this as a General Adult post towards eligibility for the written papers cannot count this post towards the CASC as another psychiatric specialty.

An additional 6 months in another recognised medical specialty which is post foundation/internship experience may be counted towards eligibility requirements can include:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| ○ Paediatrics | ○ Surgery |
| ○ General Practice | ○ A & E Medicine |
| ○ General Medicine | ○ Public Health |
| ○ Pathology | ○ Ophthalmology |
| ○ Obstetricians and Gynaecology | ○ Neurology |
| ○ Oncology | ○ Radiology |

To qualify for this 6 month post to count towards eligibility a letter of confirmation from the Medical Director of the Hospital where the post was held must be submitted with the application form.

AND

- b) **A pass in Papers 1,2 & 3**

(A pass in MRCPsych Part 1 and Paper 3 is valid until 31st July 2010. After this date applicants will be required to pass MRCPsych Papers 1 & 2 and MUST hold a valid pass in Paper 3 prior to submitting an application to sit the CASC).

All applicants for the CASC must hold a pass in Paper 3 which is valid within the banking period. The valid period is 635 days starting from the date of publication of the results of Paper 3 which counts as day 1. The pass may be used for any CASC examination held within that period (please note that candidates whose 635 days expires, for example, the day before the date of the first day of the CASC will be ineligible and are required to retake Paper 3).

AND

c) For posts within a programme of training approved by PMETB

- (i) Successful completion of Annual Review of Competence Progression (ARCP) including satisfactory attainment of appropriate competencies in Psychotherapy AND Child & Adolescent Psychiatry or Learning Disability (achieved by the time of applying for the CASC) documented on the application form by the College Tutor.

and

- (ii) Sponsorship from College Tutor.

OR

d) For all other posts

- (i) Successful completion of an Assessment Portfolio demonstrating achievement of equivalent competencies (see Appendix 1) to those defined in the ARCP documented on the application form which must include competencies in Psychotherapy AND Child & Adolescent Psychiatry or Learning Disability (achieved by the time of applying for the CASC) documented on the application form by Training Lead (UK) or Head of Department of Psychiatry (overseas).

and

- (ii) Sponsorship from Training Lead (UK) or Head of Department of Psychiatry (overseas) AND Director of Medical Education or equivalent.

Important Notes

- All applicants require sponsorship to sit the examinations.
- **Recommended timeframe**

30 - 48 months of post foundation experience in Psychiatry. It is expected that trainees will have attained the CASC within 48 months of post foundation experience.

- **Re-sitting CASC (3 attempts or less)**

Unsuccessful candidates may re-sit CASC examination provided that they meet the eligibility requirements which include a valid pass in Paper 3 and a valid sponsorship form for each attempt.

- **Re-sitting CASC (after 3 attempts)**

Candidates who have had 3 unsuccessful attempts at the CASC must have letters of support from **College Tutor (All PMETB Approved Post holders)**.

For non-PMETB/Overseas post holders Head of School of Psychiatry (overseas) or Director of Medical Education (UK) should submit letters of support.

Letters from sponsors should acknowledge that the candidate has already had 3 attempts at the CASC and that additional training has been given in preparation for further attempts at the MRCPsych examination

Candidates should meet the eligibility requirements which include a valid pass in Paper 3 and a valid sponsorship form for each attempt.

3. LOCUM POSTS

(i) LATS

Locums approved for training (LATS) may count all time in posts towards eligibility requirements.

(ii) All other Locum Posts including LAS

All other locum posts including locums approved for service (LAS) may count a **maximum of EIGHT months** towards the time requirements for entry to the examination if they meet all the following criteria:

a) Minimum duration of FOUR months whole time equivalent

b) Recognised by the Hospital (Trusts where applicable) as incorporating within contractual arrangements specified time and funding for educational training. Job plans must include dedicated time for academic and educational activities such as attending journal clubs, grand rounds, attendance at an MRCPsych course or equivalent, study leave and regular weekly educational supervision.

Note: Foundation Programme, Trust Grade and pilot ST posts do not count towards eligibility.

4. FLEXIBLE POST-HOLDERS (LESS THAN FULL-TIME TRAINEES)

Flexible post holders (less than full-time trainees) will have to demonstrate equivalent competencies. Details are currently being finalised and will be published shortly. In the meantime Flexible (less than full-time) post holders wishing clarification on time spent in posts and eligibility are advised to submit a job description and weekly timetable for the attention of the Associate Dean, Examinations.

5. RESEARCH POSTS

Research fellows in full time posts whose job plan contains protected time for research may count the research time towards the time eligibility requirements for entry to the examination. They must meet all other requirements as stipulated in the Eligibility Criteria and Regulations for the MRCPsych Examinations.

6. APPENDIX 1

Assessment Portfolio for Overseas Candidates and UK Candidates in Non-PMETB Approved Posts

Candidates from overseas or in non-PMETB approved posts must show their sponsor evidence of having achieved equivalent competencies at appropriate competency levels (year 1, 2, 3) for each component of the examination.

In addition competencies in Psychotherapy AND Child & Adolescent Psychiatry or Learning Disability must have been achieved by the time of applying for the MRCPsych CASC.

Candidates must undertake the following activities as part of their structured job plans (this is NOT an exhaustive list):

- a) be observed interviewing patients in ward rounds for specified reasons e.g. elicit phenomenology, identify problems, assess risk, make formulation, negotiate a treatment plan
- b) be observed interviewing patients in out-patient or community settings or other contexts for specified reasons e.g. elicit phenomenology, identify problems, assess risk, make formulation, negotiate a treatment plan
- c) be assessed via formal presentation of cases with their medical notes; discuss management of cases with their Clinical or Educational Supervisor
- d) be assessed formally in having achieved competencies in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry or Learning Disability AND Psychotherapy.

Assessments and achievement of competencies should take place in a range of settings and psychiatric specialties (see requirements of experience in specialties). The trainee must have received structured, documented feedback on their performance.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1) INTRODUCTION

The MRCPsych Examinations consists of three Written Papers and one Clinical Examination (CASC). A calendar of dates and a schedule of fees for 2010 are available from the College website www.rcpsych.ac.uk/exams. All updates regarding the MRCPsych Examinations will be published on the Exams pages of the College website.

2) EXAMINATION VENUES

a. Written Papers

i) The Written Papers are held at various centres in the UK in addition to Dublin & Hong Kong. For those wishing to sit the examination in the UK candidates will be asked to indicate their centre preference (1st, 2nd, and 3rd). Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. If no other preference is indicated in the event of the first choice not being available, the next available centre will be allocated. Although every effort will be made to allocate candidates to the centre of their first preference, this cannot be guaranteed.

ii) Extra time candidates

All candidates who have received approval from the College for extra time will sit the written examination at one of the College premises in London.

Admission Documents issued for the examination are only valid for the venue they are issued for.

YOU MUST BRING OFFICIAL PHOTO IDENTIFICATION (ID) TO THE WRITTEN EXAMINATION. This can include: Passport, Drivers Licence, and Hospital ID only.

If you have any reasons why you cannot bring official photo ID to the examination please contact the Examinations Operations Manager once you have received notification of being entered to sit the examination. *Failure to do so may result in you being refused entry into the examination centre.*

b. Clinical Assessment of Skills and Competencies (CASC)

The Education, Training and Standards Committee reserve the right to send candidates to any venue in the United Kingdom where the CASC Examination is held. The venue for the CASC in 2010 will be Sheffield.

3) MATERNITY LEAVE, PATERNITY LEAVE, AND SICK LEAVE

A total of three months whole time equivalent in either of the above, or a combination of the above, is permitted during the course of training. This must be agreed with the College Tutor and Postgraduate Deanery. A letter of support confirming leave should be issued by the College Tutor/Training Lead (non-PMETB approved post holders)/Head of Department of Psychiatry (Overseas post holders).

4) REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

All doctors in the UK must be registered with the General Medical Council (GMC) when applying for the MRCPsych Examinations. The College will verify that registration is valid with the GMC.

Details regarding registration can be found on the GMC website (<http://www.gmc-uk.org/>)

Overseas trainees must be registered with their national body. An original or attested copy of their current registration certificate must be included with an application to sit the examination. All original documentation will be returned via international registered post.

5) PUBLICATION OF RESULTS

Dates for publication of results are published with the Examinations Calendar on the College website www.rcpsych.ac.uk/exams or from the Examinations Unit.

Results are sent by first class post to candidates on the predetermined dates as published in the examinations calendar.

Names of successful candidates will normally be available by 5pm on the date of publication on the College website. Candidates who do not wish to have their name published if successful MUST inform the Examination Unit at the time of application.

RESULTS WILL NOT BE GIVEN OVER THE TELEPHONE, BY FAX, OR E-MAIL. Candidates are asked to refrain from contacting the Examinations Unit to enquire about or discuss results.

6) RE-MARKING OF ANSWER SHEETS

Candidates wishing to have their answer sheets re-marked should apply in writing to the Examinations Operations Manager together with a cheque for £120.00 made payable to 'The Royal College of Psychiatrists' NO LATER THAN 14 days after the publication of results.

7) SPONSORSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Sponsorship must remain valid up to and including the date of the examination. Withdrawal of sponsorship will deem the applicant ineligible. The College reserves the right to verify sponsorship with signatories. If confirmation of sponsorship is not verified the application will be rejected and the College reserves the right to take appropriate action.

a. UK trainees

Sponsorship forms must be signed by a College Tutor (and the Director of Medical Education or equivalent for Non-PMETB post holders) confirming that the eligibility requirements to sit the MRCPsych examinations have been met.

b. Overseas Trainees

Sponsorship forms must be signed by the Training Lead & Director of Medical education (UK post holders) or Head of Department of Psychiatry & Director of Medical education/Equivalent wherever applicable(Overseas post holders) and confirming that the eligibility requirements to sit the MRCPsych examinations have been met.

8) MEMBERSHIP OF THE COLLEGE

In order to obtain Membership of the College, the following criteria must be met:

30 months post foundation/internship experience in Psychiatry AND a pass in ALL components of the MRCPsych Examinations.

The Education, Training and Standards Committee reserve the right to make the final decision with regard to an individual's election to Membership. Consideration is given in each case to the GMC's Good Medical Practice Guidelines.

Successful candidates admitted to Membership are not permitted to use the letters 'MRCPsych' until they have completed the declaration form and returned it to the Registration Officer, accompanied by the Registration Fee. Upon receipt of these, the Registration Officer will issue a Membership Certificate which grants entitlement to the 'MRCPsych' designation.

9) THE LAUGHLIN PRIZE

A prize of £250 may be awarded to the candidate considered by the Examinations Sub-Committee to have given the best overall performance in Paper 3 and the CASC. The Education, Training and Standards Committee, however, reserves the right not to award the prize.

10) THE STANDISH-BARRY PRIZE

A prize of £200 may be awarded annually to the Irish Graduate considered by the Examinations Sub-Committee to have given the best overall performance in Paper 3 and the CASC. The Education, Training and Standards Committee, however, reserves the right not to award the prize.

11) APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Examination dates together with application periods are published on the exams pages of the College website at least 5 months prior to the following examination year.

All applications must be received within the specified dates. Application forms can be obtained from the Examinations page of the College website via the following link: www.rcpsych.ac.uk

IT IS THE CANDIDATE'S RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT APPLICATIONS SENT ARE COMPLETE, AND THAT ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED IS ATTACHED.

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED AND MUST BE RESUBMITTED WITHIN THE APPLICATION PERIOD.

Applications must be received NO LATER THAN 5pm on the published closing date. Applicants are strongly advised to apply as early as possible within the application period.

A list of all applications received will be published on the College website in order to facilitate the smooth processing of applications during the busy application period. Applicants should refrain from contacting the Examinations Unit to enquire after receipt of applications.

PLEASE NOTE THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL LATE APPLICATIONS BE ACCEPTED.

THERE IS NO EXCEPTION TO THIS RULE.

The College will not accept responsibility for postal delays or loss of documentation in the postal system or insufficient postage paid.

12) CASC EXAMINATION - HONG KONG CENTRE

The Royal College of Psychiatrists and Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists are pleased to announce the opening in Hong Kong of a centre for the Clinical Assessment of Skills and Competencies (CASC) Examination for candidates working towards Membership of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

This exam will run subject to a minimum of 16 candidates. Applicants will be allocated the UK centre (March 2010 subject to meeting CASC eligibility requirements) if less than the minimum number is achieved. Places are limited and priority will be given to Hong Kong based trainees followed by those based in the South Asia/Asia Pacific region.

13) PAPER 3 AND SUBSEQUENT CASC APPLICATIONS

Applicants for Paper 3 who are eligible and intend to apply for the subsequent CASC are requested to have applications (including the sponsorship form) for the CASC prepared in advance so that they may be submitted as soon as results for Paper 3 are published. You are strongly advised that opting for your name to be published on the Paper 3 pass list via the College website will assist in ensuring that CASC applications are posted and received within published timeframes.

14) WITHDRAWALS AND REFUNDS

a. Withdrawal Prior to an Examination

It is the responsibility of candidates to satisfy themselves that they are fit to take the Examinations. If the candidate is not fit, or if he/she thinks there may be other grounds for withdrawal - for example, illness/bereavement or personal problems of a very serious nature - he/she should inform his/her College Tutor/Training Lead/Head of Department of Psychiatry who should issue a letter of support. If the College Tutor/ Training Lead/Head of Department of Psychiatry is not available, the candidate should contact his/her Educational Supervisor. Candidates should also inform the Head of Examinations Unit, or the Examinations Operations Manager or Examinations Co-ordinator at the Royal College of Psychiatrists in writing together with a GP's letter (if applicable).

b. Withdrawal during an Examination

Candidates who attend the Examination Centre and are or become unwell on the day of the examination should speak to the Chief Invigilator (written papers) or a Member of the Examinations Unit (CASC exam)

If the candidate wishes to continue the examination, the Examiners/Examinations Sub-Committee will not normally make allowances for adverse performance levels due to illness. **Candidates should be aware that if they decide to continue under such circumstances their attempt will stand whatever the circumstances.**

It will not be possible to allocate another date or session during the week of the examination for candidates who withdraw.

c. Refunds

- i) Trainees/candidates who withdraw prior to the closing date will receive a full refund.
All withdrawals must be made in writing.
- ii) Trainees/candidates who withdraw after the closing date are not entitled to a refund.

However, if the withdrawal has been prompted by accident/illness or bereavement, written submissions should be made to the Head of Examinations NO LATER THAN 30 DAYS after the date of the examination. Any such request must be supported in writing by the candidate's College Tutor. Additionally, those withdrawing due to illness must send a letter from the physician responsible for their treatment.

The Head of Examinations Unit will liaise with the Chief Examiner to assess whether a refund may be awarded. Refunds are granted at the discretion of the College Treasurer and will not exceed more than 50% of the total fees paid for the examination.

Candidates who proceed to withdraw fees prior to the processing of their cheque and after the closing date without authorisation from the Chief Examiner will be required to re-submit their fees prior to subsequent entries.

15) ACCIDENT, ILLNESS, AND BEREAVEMENT

a. Withdrawal Prior to an Examination

It is the responsibility of candidates to satisfy themselves that they are fit to take the Examinations. If the candidate is not fit, or if he/she thinks there may be other grounds for withdrawal - for example, accident/illness/bereavement or personal problems of a very serious nature - he/she should inform his/her College Tutor/Training Lead/Head of Department of Psychiatry who should issue a letter of support. If the College Tutor/ Training Lead/Head of Department of Psychiatry is not available, the candidate should contact his/her Educational Supervisor. Candidates should also inform the Head of Examinations Unit or the Examinations Operations Manager or Examinations Co-ordinator at the Royal College of Psychiatrists in writing together with a GP's letter (if applicable).

b. Withdrawal during an Examination

Candidates who attend the Examination Centre and are or become unwell on the day of the examination should speak to the Chief Invigilator (written papers) or a Member of the Examinations Unit (CASC exam).

If the candidate wishes to continue the examination, the Examiner/ Examinations Sub-Committee will not normally make allowances for adverse performance levels due to illness. **Candidates should be aware that if they decide to continue under such circumstances their attempt will stand whatever the circumstances.**

It will not be possible to allocate another date or session during the week of the examination for candidates who withdraw.

16) CONDUCT IN EXAMINATIONS

It is strictly forbidden to take books, calculators*, notes, aids, writing paper, overcoats, handbags, cases, and any electronic, computer, recording or other equipment into the written or clinical examination rooms. Writing materials for use in the examination will be provided and must be returned together with all notes made. It is strictly forbidden to remove examination material either from the examination. This includes written questions and CASC stations.

During the periods before and (in the case of the CASC) after sitting the examination, the use of telephones, computers, or any form of communication, messaging or electrical/electronic equipment, including recording devices by candidates is strictly forbidden. Candidates who attend the written papers must stop writing when instructed to do so within the permitted examination time period.

Please note that failure to comply with these requirements will lead to disqualification from the examination.

More detailed rules regarding conduct during the examinations will be issued to examination candidates prior to the examination date, and these form part of the Eligibility Criteria & Regulations for the MRCPsych Examinations (effective 2009).

***Please Note: Calculators are only permitted in Paper 3.**

17) SPECIAL NEEDS FOR CANDIDATES TAKING THE MRCPsych EXAMINATION

a. Special Arrangements

The following guidelines specify the procedure for special arrangements. Please note that special consideration may **only** be given **in advance** of an examination.

To qualify for special consideration candidates must supply:

1. A written assessment from an educational psychologist (dated within 5 years) or a report from their physician as appropriate which includes a statement confirming that the candidate's difficulties warrant special examination arrangements; accompanied by
2. A letter of support from their College Tutor (or supervising consultant of equivalent standing if applying from overseas).

Such an application will be considered by the Chairman of the Examinations Sub-Committee. If a candidate is not able to supply the above documents within the application period, the candidate may choose to (i) withdraw, or (ii) proceed without special arrangements.

Candidates who qualify for extra time for the Written Papers will be required to sit the Examination at the College premises in London.

b. Notification of Disability or state of health within an examination centre

Applicants should inform the Examinations Unit of any disabilities or factors that may hinder their movements within an examination centre within the application period. Supporting documentation from the applicant's physician should also be submitted together with details of requirements. If a candidate is not able to supply the above documents within the application period, the candidate may choose to (i) withdraw, or (ii) proceed without special arrangements.

In the event that a candidate requires special assistance at an examinations centre outside of the application period due to unforeseen circumstances they should contact the Examinations Unit immediately.

18) COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

Trainees who wish to make a complaint regarding assessment of their eligibility to sit for any Examination should write to the Head of the Examinations Unit. All such complaints will be discussed with the Chief Examiner, the Dean, and the Associate Dean for Examinations, and may be referred to the Education, Training and Standards Committee if appropriate.

Trainees who wish to make a complaint about an individual member of the Examinations Unit are advised to write to the Head of the Examinations Unit.

Candidates who wish to make a complaint about the conduct of an exam/ examiner at the examination should in the first instance ask to speak to a the MRCPsych CASC Circuit Manager (CASC)/ Chief Invigilator (Written Paper), who will complete an incident report. The candidate in addition should make a formal complaint in writing to the Head of Examinations Unit **no later than THREE DAYS after the date of the examination. It is the responsibility of the candidate to comply within the stipulated timeframe.**

The Head of Examinations will, in liaison with the Chief Examiner, investigate the complaint and report to the Examinations Sub-Committee.

19) APPEALS PROCEDURE

Candidates who wish to appeal against the result of any MRCPsych Examination should follow the Appeals Procedure which can be downloaded from the college website www.rcpsych.ac.uk or is available from the Examinations Unit by written request.

20) ETHNIC MONITORING

The College is constantly endeavouring to ensure that all its Members and Associates are treated equitably. We believe that the College does have a good record in these areas and that we are in the vanguard of professional associations. We can only ensure equity if we have accurate information in all areas of College activities. This includes Examination details.

It was for these reasons that Council agreed to request the membership to declare their ethnicity based on the Office of National Statistics 2001 census categories as amended by the Commission for Racial Equality.

These have been used because they are the official categories and for ease of comparison with population data. Please use the category which you consider best describes your ethnic origin.

This information is gathered solely for monitoring purposes and is treated as confidential. It is not available to Examiners.

21) SELECTION INTO ADVANCED TRAINING IN PSYCHIATRY

Those trainees wishing to pursue advanced training in Psychiatry (ST4 – ST6) must have completed a minimum of 36 months of experience in Psychiatry at SHO or ST1/CT1-3 level (not including foundation posts) in Psychiatry and have successfully passed all components of the MRCPsych Examination.

22) DATA PROTECTION ACT

All trainees/candidates should refer to the College's Data Protection Policy available on the College website www.rcpsych.ac.uk or by request in writing.

All further queries pertaining to eligibility and these regulations should be made in writing prior to any application/attempt to the Associate Dean for Examinations, Examinations Unit, Royal College of Psychiatrists, 17 Belgrave Square, London, SW1X 8PG.