

MRCPsych CASC Blueprint

| | General Adult ⁴ | Old Age | CAMHS | Learning Disability | Psychotherapy | Forensic | % ⁵ |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------|-------|---------------------|---------------|----------|----------------|
| History¹ | X | X | X | X | X | X | 30-40 |
| Mental State Examination | X | X | X | X | | X | 30-40 |
| Risk Assessment² | X | X | X | X | | X | 15-30 |
| Cognitive Examination | X | X | | | | X | 10-20 |
| Physical Examination | X | X | | | | | 5-15 |
| Case Discussion³ | X | X | X | X | X | X | 15-30 |
| Difficult Communication | X | X | X | X | X | X | 5-15 |

Notes:

1. History may include obtaining collateral history as well as taking a history directly from the 'patient'
2. Risk assessment may include assessment of capacity
3. Case discussion can be with medical and paramedical professionals as well as lay people including the patient, family, carers and other professionals. It also includes skills related to psychotherapy formulation (cognitive and dynamic) and discussion of treatment.
4. General Adult includes all subspecialties
5. There will be minor variation in the percentage of stations for each skill area according to how skills are represented in each station. This is due to some station constructs assessing more than one skill (e.g. risk assessment requiring a mental state examination or difficult communication occurring within the context of a case discussion)

At any one sitting of the CASC, candidates will face 16 stations. Normally candidates could expect to encounter the following make up of stations:

- At least one station with a psychopathology focus
- At least one station with risk assessment as the focus
- At least one station with cognitive assessment as the focus
- At least one station with a psychotherapy theme
- At least one station with an old age psychiatry theme
- At least one station with either a learning disability or child and adolescent psychiatry theme
- Possibly one station with a forensic psychiatry theme
- Possibly one station testing physical examination skills
- Possibly one station testing communication skills
- Remaining stations will cover general adult psychiatry themes, including sub-specialties

Throughout these stations there will be a mix of skills required including history taking, aspects of mental state examination, communication of diagnoses, management plans, and prognosis.