

Background

Angoff standard-setting is an established but labour-intensive methodology. The RCPCH use the Angoff to set cut scores for the FOP, TAS and AKP theory examinations.

A bespoke electronic voting system was implemented to improve efficiency and its impact on judge satisfaction was studied.

Summary of Work

An online questionnaire was used to determine what motivates our 52 Angoff judges.



How to exceed expectations using computer-based voting

Question 9.2	Pass Rate		Answer Key
	Independent Judging	Judging after discussion	J
	61	66	77
	60	60	70
	50	60	70
	80	80	80
	65	70	75
	85	85	85
	80	75	80
		0	0
		0	0
		0	0
Average	68.71	71	77

Summary of Results

The response rate was 81% (n=42). Respondents had been an active judge for a mean (SD) of 4.2 (2.5) years, with 67% having participated ≥ 4 times.

The main reasons for becoming an Angoff judge were: interest in medical education (74%) and to complement other RCPCH work (57%). We found small differences between consultant and trainee judges.

Motivation to continue in this role was high (91%). Most valued the opportunity to network (91%) and this self-selected cohort reported that the educational environment was fun (88%). Judges report liking the electronic voting program as it speeds up the process and allows instantaneous review of group votes.

Conclusions and Take-home Messages

The Angoff process is labour-intensive and relies upon goodwill. The potential for social interaction appears to be important in ensuring participant satisfaction. Voting software adds to the process and maximises the efficiency of the meeting which is key to retention.