

UPDATE – UK MRCPCH CLINICAL EXAMS JUNE 2022

We are providing an update about the delivery method for the June 2022 MRCPCH Clinical Exam.

Early this year, the Exams team solicited opinions from stakeholders about the path forward for UK clinical exam delivery from the 2022-2 diet of exams. After analysing the results of those surveys and in conjunction with senior officers and staff, the RCPCCH Examinations Board have agreed to return to face-to-face MRCPCH Clinical exam delivery at host centres across the UK in June 2022. However, there will be no patients on the June exam. Instead, we will continue to use scenarios for clinical stations for this diet. The risk of having to cancel June exams due to issues with patient participation was a primary concern. The resumption of host-based delivery of the exam allows us to stress test our system prior to considering returning patients to the exam. We will continue to review our options looking ahead to October 2022. We all are keen to return patients to exams and will be working hard to make this a reality.

Details

In terms of practical matters for June UK exams, we will be delivering the Modified Clinical exam, which was the exam that was first delivered in October 2019 and includes the domain-based marking system. We will return to having 4 short clinical stations, 1 development, 1 history, 2 communications and 2 video stations. All stations will be based on scenarios and the development, history and communications stations will have role-players. The double length stations will remain at 23 minutes in length and the short stations will remain at 9 minutes in length. There will be 5 minutes between each station for candidates to move to their new station and begin reading / viewing universal cues. During this time examiners will complete marking on paper-based mark sheets.

We have secured a number of host centres for June at hospitals across the UK. We have a backlog of UK based candidates who very much want to sit the exam and the number of seats we hope to have available for the summer will hopefully help to reduce our waitlists and provide more candidates with opportunities to sit the exam.

The process for applying for the exam will be the same as it always has been, candidates apply and we check eligibility and use our allocation criteria to allocate seats. We have clarified our allocation criteria on the How to Apply webpage, so all applicants should make sure they review this information in detail before submitting applications.

We will be working over the next few weeks to update all guidance for candidates. We have created a new webpage, [MRCPCH Clinical Exam Face-to-Face Guidance hub](#), that will consolidate and host all the updated guidance from the UK Covid Adapted online web page as well as the Overseas Face-to-Face webpage. Please check this hub page regularly as we will post updated documents as we finish them. To be clear, candidates can continue to rely on the preparation and guidance documents on the [Covid Adapted web page](#) or, if they are overseas candidates, on the [Overseas Face-to-Face web page](#), as the stations will be the same in terms of having role players or scenarios, timings, and domains covered. For clarity,

there will be no Extended Clinical station so please disregard any reference or guidance related to this as well as any reference to Practique and online exams.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email us at exams@rcpch.ac.uk