



Irish College of Ophthalmologists

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT FOR HST INTERVIEWS

Important information for Route A/B candidates

All specialty training interviews in 2015 for entry to ST3 via route A and route B will follow a Multiple Mini Interview (MMI) format. Interviews for all of the Surgical Specialties will be held during the week beginning 23rd March 2015 and will be held in conjunction with interviews for current ST2 trainees seeking to progress to ST3. Interviews will be conducted over 5 stations (of equal weighting) under the following topics:

Multiple Mini Interview Topics

1. Quality and safety in surgical healthcare

Purpose: The purpose of this station is to assess the candidate's awareness and commitment to quality and safety issues in the provision of surgical care.

Indicative Content: Audit. Incident reporting systems. Risk registers / risk management systems. Medical and surgical error. Clinical governance. Continuous Quality Improvement. MDT meetings. Surgical "handovers".

2. Commitment to academic advancement and lifelong learning

Purpose: The purpose of this station is to assess the candidate's commitment to maintaining up to date knowledge and professional competence.

Indicative Content: Review of surgical portfolio. Attendance at relevant meetings and courses. Presentations and publications. Teaching activities. Involvement in clinical research.

3. Knowledge of current issues relevant to surgical practice

Purpose: The purpose of this station is to assess the candidate's knowledge and awareness of issues (other than surgical knowledge and technical skill) which may impact on delivery of good surgical care.

Indicative Content: The Clinical Programmes (Acute Surgery Programme / Elective Surgery Programme). Hospital networks. Universal Health Insurance. European Working Time Directive / shift working.

4. Decision making in surgery

Purpose: The purpose of this station is to assess the candidate's ability to utilise knowledge and skills in making sound clinical judgements for patient management relevant to the specialty in question.

Indicative Content: 2 Clinical Scenarios, 3-4 minutes each.

5. Professionalism and probity in surgical practice

Purpose: The purpose of this station is to assess the candidate's awareness and commitment to professional and ethical behaviour in surgical practice.

Indicative Content: Regulation of the medical profession (Medical Council / Fitness to Practice process). Ethical behaviour for doctors. Patient advocacy. Disclosure of error. Clinical research ethics. Introduction of new technology to surgical practice. Data protection.

Each station will be manned by a minimum of two interviewers. Each interview lasts for eight minutes and there is then two minutes for marking. Each interviewer will mark independently without discussion. There will be topics and questions decided in advance by the interviewers and each trainee should cover 2-3 topics during the eight minute interview. The Chairman of each interview panel is nominated by the President of RCSI. The role of the Chairman is to protect the interests of the College and to ensure that all interviews are conducted in accordance with the regulations defined by ISPTC and the Department of Human Resources.