**Year 2 Clinical Communication Exam**

**Date: 2 and 3 May 2013**

**Venues**: **Clinical Skills Centre, 2nd Floor Paterson Building, St Mary’s campus**

**Clinical Skills Suite, 1st Floor Reynolds Building, Charing Cross campus**

The simulated patient encounter will be identical in format to your previous in-course encounters and will be based entirely on what has been covered in the course. **You are not expected to be proficient at taking a full and detailed history. You are expected to explore some basic elements of the history, including identifying the presenting complaint, past medical history etc.** Other areas which will be examined will include skills used to: start the interview; explore the patient’s problem; explore the patient’s perspective; introduce relevant content questions (e.g. medication, alcohol, smoking) structure the interview and close the interview.

**Please arrive 15 minutes before the time of your scheduled interview and please wear smart dress**. When you arrive you will be given a label with your candidate number and shortly after that you will be allocated to an interview room and will be asked to stand outside it. The examiner will come to check and note your candidate number. **The interview itself will last 10 minutes and will begin with a whistle blowing. You will receive a knock on the door at 8 minutes (to let you know that you have 2 minutes remaining. When you hear a bell ringing this indicates the end of the interview at which point you must stop talking immediately even if you haven’t got to the closing of the interview**. At the end of the interview leave the room and return to the waiting area.

**Note**: Ensure that your mobile is on silent mode

**Candidate Instructions**

*Alex Healy is sitting beside the bed. You have been allocated to that firm and want to practise your basic history taking skills. You have ten minutes before you go to observe an angioplasty being carried out on another patient.*



It is recommended that you revisit “information gathering and history taking” on the UK council e-learning module. This will help in your preparation for the exam.

Kind regards

Dr G.M. Murtagh