**Graduate Entry Clinical Communication Exam**

**Date: 15 June 2012**

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

As you know you will be required to conduct a simulated patient interview as part of the assessment of Clinical Communication. The simulated patient encounter will be identical in format to your previous in-course encounters in January and March 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. The interview itself will last 10 minutes and as this is an examination situation you will not receive any feedback.

You will each be allocated a time-slot which will be posted on the intranet soon. On the day when you arrive at the Paterson Centre you will receive a candidate number. You will then receive instructions on the protocol for the day.

The task:

*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.*

At the end of the interview you will leave the room and stand outside the door until instructed to go back to the waiting area collect you belongings and leave.



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.

As mentioned previously, this is a summative assessment as part of the FOCP in-course assessment and you will be graded as satisfactory or unsatisfactory. If your performance is graded as unsatisfactory you will have the opportunity to re-take the assessment on the 27thJune 2012. However, it is vital that your performance at the re-take is satisfactory to ensure your progression to Year 3.

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