

# The ST3 Year and the CSA Exam

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## To receive the Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT)

- You must have passed all 3 components:
- **AKT**✓ + **CSA**✓ + **WPBA**✓

**There is a lot to get done!**

**Workplace Based  
Assessment:**

- **Learning Log Entries** showing competence in all required skills and in all areas of the GP Curriculum.

**And...**

**Workplace Based Assessment**

- COTs
- CBDs
- Audit / Quality Improvement Activity
- MSF
- PSQ
- CEPS
- SEA
- OOH sessions
- PDP
- Form R and GMC Survey completion

## **WPBA must be completed**

- **By the end of May 2018!**
- **ARCP Panels take place in June**

## **Planning**

- **Regularly discuss your progress with your Educational Supervisor**
- **Plan out what you need to do and when you plan to do it**
- **Ensure you have the Out of Hours sessions done with a maximum of 2 booked but not done by the time of the panel**

## The CSA Exam

- The CSA is a summative assessment of a doctor's ability to integrate and apply **clinical, professional, communication and practical skills** appropriate for general practice

## Format of CSA Exam

- 13 Simulated Cases
- 10 minutes each
- Linked to learning outcomes from GP Curriculum
- Selected to represent the range and diversity of general practice
- Can involve examination, writing a prescription and use of telephone



## The CSA Exam

- **A high-fidelity skills assessment**
- **Based on OSCE format**
- **External, objective assessment of clinical skills**
- **Standardised, pre-determined level of challenge**
- **Realistic simulation of real-life consultations**
- **Patients played by trained/calibrated role players**
- **Cases written and assessed by working GPs**
- **Systematic sampling from the curriculum, using a selection blueprint**

### CSA Case Selection

- **Spread of age ranges, gender and curriculum areas**
- **A selection of acute, chronic and undifferentiated presentations**
- **Cases focussing on psychosocial, emotionally challenging, potentially serious and preventative conditions**
- **Cases based on health promotion, diversity and examination issues**
- **May include a telephone consultation or a home visit case**

## The CSA tests 3 domains:

1. Data-gathering, technical and assessment skills
2. **Clinical Management Skills**
3. **Interpersonal Skills**

## RESOURCES ON WEBSITE

[Http://boltongptraining.org.uk/?page\\_id=35](http://boltongptraining.org.uk/?page_id=35)

1. Clinical Areas Prompt for case selection
2. CSA Consultation Overview diagram
3. CSA Consultation marking aid

**Read everything on the website**

<http://www.rcgp.org.uk/training-exams/mrcgp-exams-overview/mrcgp-clinical-skills-assessment-csa.aspx>

Arrival and departure

Dresscode

Summary reports from previous exams

## **Take your Doctor's Bag**

- **BNF, BNF for children**
- **Stethoscope, Ophthalmoscope, Otoscope**
- **Thermometer**
- **Patella hammer, Tape measure**
- **Peak flow meter and disposable mouthpieces**
- **There is no need to bring a sphygmomanometer**





## Preparing yourself for the CSA

- Read about the exam and what it is testing
- **See patients!** Fill knowledge and skills gaps
- Reflect on consultation dynamics
- **Joint surgeries** with Educational Supervisor
- Ask for feedback from OOH supervisor
- Role plays, **Video yourself**, COTs
- Consultation Models and Tools
- **Ensure your knowledge and skills are up-to-date** (ie. not just about communication)

## CSA Preparation and the DRC

- Teaching session with CSA Examiner
- Practice writing Cases
- CSA small groups with Actors and Facilitators
- Mock CSA in December

## CSA Study Groups

- Mixed ability groups are better than groups of similar ability
- Based on Geography – where you live
- Or could meet before DRC starts on Weds mornings

## Apply for the Exam via the RCGP Website

- 7 separate CSA sittings (4 attempts)
- 6-12 days duration
- Planned sittings: Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan/Feb, March, April, May
- Apply 4-6 weeks before
- **£1663**

## CSA CASE WRITING PRACTICE

- Choose a curriculum area
- Think of a condition or presenting problem
- Acute, chronic, serious, less serious, preventative, emotionally challenging
- Decide on a patient - age, sex, third party
- Outline the scenario
- What do you want to test? Examination?
- Marks for **Data Gathering**, **Interpersonal Skills**, **Clinical Management**
- Details for the patient role player

## Teaching and Study Leave

- The Day Release Course
- Wednesdays - 9.30 – 3.30
- Protected time on Weds for educational activity when DRC sessions not scheduled (eg. during CSA)
- Study Leave - 5 days
- The Residential:
- 14th & 15th September

