

Data supplement DS2

Text of invitation email

Dear Colleague

We would be grateful if you could complete the following Psychiatric Trainees' Committee (PTC) survey on a potential psychiatry exit examination:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PTCexitexam>

We are asking both trainees and consultants to participate.

The survey will take about 10 minutes to complete.

The deadline for completion of the survey is Friday 21st June.

If you have any questions please e-mail ptc@rcpsych.ac.uk

Why we are conducting this survey

The General Medical Council recommends that all medical Royal Colleges should have an exit examination or assessment that trainees take prior to being accepted onto the Specialist Register (i.e. toward the end of higher training). Most other medical Colleges already have exit examinations.

The Royal College of Psychiatrists has agreed that its current focus should be on improving the MRCPsych examinations for core trainees. There are no plans to introduce an exit exam immediately, but work on designing an exit assessment is likely to begin soon with a view to introducing it in the next few years.

The Psychiatric Trainees' Committee (PTC) decided that preparing for this should be one of our highest priorities. We therefore set up a working group to get trainees involved from the beginning. If an exit examination has to be introduced, our priorities are:

- To ensure the exit exam assesses what is really important for new consultants.
- To ensure the views of trainees have a major role in informing what the exam will look like and what it will assess.

We felt that our first step should be to gather views from as many trainees as possible. This will help us develop a set of options which will be the starting point for any future College work on the exit exam.

We would therefore be grateful if you could complete this survey. As you answer these questions remember that an assessment should be fair, reliable and should assess skills that will benefit patients and services. Presently, we have a blank canvas, so please suggest anything you feel is appropriate:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PTCexitexam>

Many thanks for your participation.

The PTC Exam Working Group