Stations used in the Sheffield MMI

We would like to make our selection process as transparent as possible to applicants.   As part of this, here are the eight MMI stations that will be used in the Admissions Selection MMIs held in November and December 2018. The panel-based interviews conducted in South East Asia in January 2019 are based on these stations. We use the same stations for A100 and A101.

Please note that the interviewers will know that you have had the opportunity to see these stations.

Whilst we encourage you to be prepared, we are not looking for rehearsed and recited answers. There are no model answers for these stations: there are many possible "right" answers and we are interested to hear yours. Interviews are a conversation, not an examination. Interviewers are permitted to ask supplementary questions (if they wish) to tease out a full answer.

You can find further information regarding our MMIs on our admissions webpages at: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/medicine/prospective_ug/applying/whathappens

Dr Julian Burton
Director of Undergraduate Medical Admissions

Station 1:   Sheffield and the MBChB programme

Objectives: To explore interest in and knowledge of Sheffield as a city, the structure of the MBChB programme and the candidate's determination to study medicine.

Questions:
1. If you are successful in your application you may be spending 5 years living and studying in Sheffield. What can you tell me about the City of Sheffield and the University of Sheffield?
2. What do you know about the Sheffield MBChB curriculum?
3. Medical schools around the world receive far more applications than there are places. This means that many excellent applicants will receive no offers. If this happens to you, what will you do? (Explore determination to study medicine)

Station 2:   Medicine in a wider context

Objectives: To explore why the candidate wants to be a doctor, what they learnt from their work experience (including what they know about the working of the NHS) and what the candidate knows about current controversies that surround medical practice.

Questions:
1. What inspired you to want to become a doctor?
2. Tell me about a patient that you saw during your work experience or volunteering who inspired you to find out more about what was wrong with them.
3. Do you think that non-emergency services should be provided 7 days a week in the NHS?

Station 3:   Good Medical Practice

Objectives: To explore the candidate's understanding of the importance of professionals standards and values in Medicine.

Questions:
1. What can you tell me about the General Medical Council's code of conduct for doctors?
2. Do you think it might ever be appropriate to breach a patient's confidentiality? Can you give any examples?
3. While working at your Saturday job in a shop you find that one of your colleagues has arrived at work smelling of alcohol. They appear to be intoxicated, and you know that they drove to work. What actions would you take?

Station 4:   Attitudes and values (Values Based Recruitment)

Objectives: To explore the attitudes, values and communication skills of candidates when placed into a situation with little time to prepare. These questions map to the values of the NHS Constitution.

Questions:
1. Tell me about a time when you have made a positive impact on someone else's life.
2. Based on your work or voluntary experiences, what do you think are the challenges of delivering quality care to patients?
3. How do you think demonstrating respect and dignity impacts on patients?

Station 5:   Candidate as a person

Objectives: To explore the candidate's interests and hobbies and their coping strategies.

Questions:
1. Studying medicine can be intense, so maintaining a work-life balance is important. How do you relax and unwind?
2. Medical students are selected from the best and the brightest students around the world. How will you cope with moving from an environment where you were one of the best students to one where everyone has a similar level of ability?
3. As a doctor you will have to break bad news and deal with things when they go wrong. How do you think you will cope with this emotionally?

Station 6: **Communication skills**

Objectives: To explore the candidate's communication skills and ability to interact with a patient.

Instructions to Candidate:
At this station you will meet a patient with a long-term illness. You are asked to engage them in conversation and find out about the nature of their illness, how it is managed, what effect it has on their daily life and how they think it is likely to affect their life in the future. **You are NOT expected to play the role of a medical student, doctor or other healthcare professional – you should be yourself!** The patient will be scoring you on your ability to interact with them.

Station 7: **Ethics, values and attitudes**

Objectives: To explore the ethics of the candidate and their understanding of the importance of professionalism and professional boundaries.

Questions:
1. The use of social media websites such as Facebook is now widespread amongst the public, students and healthcare professionals. Is it appropriate for medical students and doctors to use such websites?
2. How would you advise a doctor who is wondering whether to accept one of their patients as a friend on a social media website such a Facebook? Why?
3. Should medical students and doctors always declare their profession/professional status when interacting with others on a social media website? Why?

Station 8: **Information processing/Logic**

Objectives: To explore the applicants ability to process and store knowledge

Instructions to candidate:
At this station you will be asked to play a round of "20 Questions" to identify an object, creature, event or place that is known to the interviewer. To determine the answer, you must ask the interviewer a series of questions. The interviewer has been instructed to answer only YES or NO to your questions. You may ask up to 20 questions. All questions must be answerable by YES or NO. You are being scored on the logical approach to your questioning, and not on whether you identify the correct answer.

Each station lasts 8 minutes. In all stations, applicants are scored on the following scale:

Grade	Score	Candidate
Excellent	5	
Good	4	
Satisfactory	3	
Borderline	2	
Poor	1	