

RCA Grade Descriptors

Clear Pass: The candidate demonstrates a high level of competence, with a justifiable clinical approach that is fluent, appropriately focussed and technically proficient.

(Interpersonal Skills: The candidate shows sensitivity, actively shares ideas and may empower the patient)

Pass: The candidate demonstrates an adequate level of competence, displaying a clinical approach that may not be fluent but is justifiable and technically proficient.

(Interpersonal Skills: The candidate shows sensitivity and tries to involve the patient)

Fail: The candidate fails to demonstrate adequate competence, with a clinical approach that is at times unsystematic or inconsistent with accepted practice. Technical proficiency may be of concern.

(Interpersonal Skills: The patient is treated with sensitivity and respect but the doctor does not sufficiently facilitate or respond to the patient's contribution)

Clear Fail: The candidate clearly fails to demonstrate competence, with clinical management that is incompatible with accepted practice or a problem-solving approach that is arbitrary or technically incompetent.

(Interpersonal Skills: The patient is not treated with adequate attention, sensitivity or respect for their contribution)

Serious professional concerns:

The candidate's performance demonstrates serious deficiencies in professional behaviour and/or attitude that could, in the opinion of the examiner, place patients at risk of significant harm from decisions and actions that the doctor takes, or fails to take.

Note: if you tick this box it does not simply mean that you have serious concerns about the doctor's fitness to be licensed, but that you have serious concerns about their fitness to practise at all. If this is the case, your evidence will be considered, the matter investigated at local level and the appropriate action taken including if ultimately necessary, GMC referral.