

MRCGP [INTERNATIONAL] DUBAI

Written Paper 2017-2019 Report

What candidates did well.

Most candidates did well on areas related to patient care including assessment and managing diseases. Candidates scored higher when they linked management to teamwork and appropriate referral. In addition, candidates who linked clinical findings to a differential diagnosis, identified a broad range of possible diagnoses, and presented a well-written management plan from the differential diagnoses that addressed the likely diagnoses scored higher.

What candidates did less well.

Candidates scored less in questions related to the latest evidence based treatment of diseases and questions that addressed managerial topics in the clinic such as dealing with colleagues, quality improvement and processes related to practice management.

Candidates also scored less if they use generic answers including phrases such as “ideas concerns and expectations”, “health beliefs”, “hidden agenda”, “communication issues” and “establish rapport” without showing an understanding of its significance in the question being asked or applying them to the scenario.

Some responses included lengthy descriptions of one part of the question, or answered looking at the issues when the question asked about discussing management or factors.

What candidates may wish to consider to help them prepare for the Written Paper.

Candidates need to be practicing in a primary care setting in order to be aware of the cases and issues that face GPs/Family Physicians on a daily basis. They need to be aware of the psychosocial aspects of the disease in addition to decision-making, communication within the family and between family members and healthcare providers and continuity of care.

Candidates are also expected to have the basic knowledge of the administrative issues that face physicians in family practice and how to deal with them.

It is recommended that candidates read the question more than once, as this will help identify the main themes. Candidates are also expected to think about what they should be doing with the patient if they were with them in the clinic and show knowledge about it. Candidates are advised to practice answering questions using a concise, well-

structured framework and answer the question that has been asked rather than elaborate on a general topic.

Candidates need to prepare for evidence-based questions by going through the latest evidence in managing and treating disease and use updated sources in their answers.