

MBBS Multiple Mini Interviews –

Guidance for Applicants

What are multiple mini interviews (MMIs)?

- MMIs are a new and fairer method of selecting medical students. In essence, the candidate moves around the room every 7 minutes talking to different staff.
- We have chosen the MMI method because we believe it gives everyone a fair opportunity to demonstrate the range of skills and attitudes they possess and also their desire to become a caring professional doctor. The activities are designed to test both your educational and personal qualities.
- There are many applicants per place for medicine and entry is highly competitive for medicine at UCLan. We want to select the best applicants. The MMIs are designed to reveal something of your personality and critical thinking skills. There is often no correct or ideal answer.

What do they involve?

- The UCLan MMIs involve 8 individual activities, each lasting 7 minutes during which there are 2 minutes to read about the activity and 5 minutes of interaction with an MMI assessor to do the activity. The assessor might be a scientist or clinical teacher; they could also be a patient volunteer or actor.
- The MMI activities will see if you can “think on your feet” rather than provide rehearsed answers. Ask the assessor if you do not understand the task.
- During the MMIs you will move from one activity to the next until you have completed all 8 activities. We believe this is the fairest way to assess if you should be given the opportunity to study medicine above other applicants.
- We have 1 station to discuss your transferable skills statement.

Assessment

- At each station your performance is assessed. The stations are all worth the same amount of marks and your overall total will be calculated and compared to that of other applicants. All stations are worth an equal amount so if you perform poorly in one station don't be put off. You can recover by a much better performance in another station.
- However failure at 3 or more stations will mean an overall interview fail (you must pass at least 6 out of 8 MMI stations).
- No immediate feedback on your performance will be given. You are assessed against a range of criteria and also given an overall station performance score. Candidates are ranked according to their score. Feedback is provided after you have been informed whether you have been offered a place. You will be given your numerical score and that of the cohort average.

Preparation

- The MMI is difficult to prepare for – but look at the skills and attributes of a doctor from websites such as the General Medical Council and journals such as student British Medical Journal. Keep up to date with current news in medicine and review the types of dilemmas that health professionals have to consider.