

Practique candidate video transcript

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Welcome to Warwick Medical School and our online MMI. Whilst social distancing is no longer required, we have decided to retain online MMIs for a number of reasons, including reducing travel time and costs for candidates. We will be using a platform called Practique to deliver our MMIs, which will allow you to experience our MMI process and interact with our assessors as you would have done had you been here in person. We hope that you have already had an opportunity to visit WMS and meet staff and students.

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I'm Celia Brown, the Admissions Lead for the MBChB at WMS. I'm here to give you a brief introduction to our MMI process, guide you through what to expect on the day, and what you need to do in advance, so this video will give you instructions on how to access and use the Practique system. A transcript of this video is also available as a PDF. Please contact us on the email address shown if you have queries or concerns after reviewing this information. However, please note that we do not have an "extra time" version of the MMI.

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This year we received 1,370 applications via UCAS. We are undertaking online MMIs in order to recruit 193 medical students to commence their studies with us in September 2023. Well done for getting this far!

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We will start with some general information about your MMI. During the MMI you will rotate around six different stations. You will have three minutes reading time before each station. You will not have to read more than one page of text, which will be in a minimum size 14 font.

The reading time is followed by eight and a half minutes with one or two assessors. The first 30 seconds of each station allow for connection time and so we can complete an ID check. You may hear a bell or whistle in the background at the end of each three or eight and a half minute period. You may also finish a station before the eight and a half minutes are up. To ensure fairness, our assessors are instructed not to chat to you but to sit in silence. If you want to return to an answer during this time, you are free to do so.

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You will be assessed on seven different values and competencies during the MMI. These are: Communication, Resilience, Insight, Probity, Respect & Dignity, Empathy and Team working. The values and competencies are mapped to the NHS Constitution. We have provided a brief guide to communication expectations on our website, which we suggest you review before your MMI.

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You will interact with a diverse range of assessors from the medical school and beyond, including current students. Assessors will tell you their first name, but will not give any further details such as their role.

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We will now talk you through the online aspect of your MMI.

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Before your MMI date, it is essential that you undertake a number of checks on your device in the location where you will be doing the MMI. We have provided a separate guide for this, including relevant internet links. Please contact us as soon as possible (and before the date of your MMI) if you do not have the required technology (including a camera and microphone) so that we can assist you.

The Practique system does not allow you to change your background as you can in Microsoft Teams. We are aware that you may have restrictions as to where you can be for your MMI. All we ask is that, like what you choose to wear, your background is not offensive.

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On the day of your MMI, make sure you log into Practique at least ten minutes before your MMI start time, so we can resolve any connection issues before your MMI begins. Your unique log in and password for Practique are your seven-digit Warwick ID number. Please do not share your ID or password with anyone else. You may wish to try logging in the day before your MMI but please, no sooner than this. Do not worry if the MMI does not start exactly on time; occasionally we run late if we have technical issues.

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A successful log in will bring you to this screen. At this stage, you don't need to do anything, so ignore the instruction to "Please select the exam you are taking". Simply wait for the MMI to be started centrally. If your attempt to log in fails, then please contact us via email or phone using the details in the summary document.

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We have allocated five minutes at the start of your MMI during which you will "connect" to your first examiner, so we can check you can see and hear each other. As soon as you see your screen change to the one shown here, click the "connect" button. You may get asked if you want to allow Practique to access your camera and microphone. Select "Yes" for both. If you do not click "connect" and select "yes" your examiner will not be able to see or talk to you!

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Once you and your examiner have both connected in, picture screens showing you both will appear and you will be able to talk to each other. On two stations there are two examiners, who will both appear on the screen. You can increase the size of the picture screens by dragging the bar underneath the pictures downwards. This will, however, reduce the screen size available to view the candidate information.

Please check you can read the candidate information document by double clicking on it. If you double click on the information again it will be shown in full screen. You DO NOT need to read it at this stage; we are checking you can access it – if you cannot make the document larger then please inform your examiner.

Once you have confirmed that you can see and hear each other, there may be a pause before we start your MMI; we will be checking that all candidates are able to see and hear their examiner and vice versa.

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During the tech-check time, we recommend that you write down your station order. You may not be starting with station 1 as shown on this screen. For example, if you see “station 3” here you will be doing the stations in the order 3,4,5,6,1,2. Your assessor will remind you what number station you are on at the start of each station. Tick them off as you go so you know which number to expect next.

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The “Round” number tells you what number of your six stations you are on. This will be 1 for all candidates at the beginning, as it is your first station. This number will progress from 1 to 6 as you go through each station. Ignore the “Circuit” number.

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Once we have confirmed that all candidates have connected successfully, we will begin the MMI with the three minutes’ reading time for your first station. If you double click on the information the document is expanded in the bottom left of the screen. If you double click again it becomes full screen as shown here. Please note this is a fictitious set of candidate instructions.

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After the reading time is complete, the timer will go and the station time will start. Close the information from full screen so you can see your examiner. To do this, click on the x button in the top right of the screen. If you need to view the instructions again during the station, you can use the Zoom and Pan functions available via the button on the left of the screen, or briefly use the full screen mode again.

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At the start of EVERY station the examiner will ask you to hold up your photo ID – passport or driving licence - with your name on it. Please have this ready to make this process as quick as possible. You will then proceed with the content of the station. In two stations – station numbers 3 and 4 – but remember you may not start with station 1 - there will be two people connecting to you. One will perform your ID check then hand over to the other for the remainder of the station. Please ask if it is not clear whom you should be addressing.

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To help you manage your time, our web page and summary document include a link to a web-based timer. You can keep this visible as a small window on your screen, or show it on a second device during your MMI. The timer is remotely programmed by us, so you do not need to start or stop it.

On the stations where you are asked questions by an examiner, make sure you answer the question fully but do not ramble. There is always more than one question in a station and your examiner will ask you to expand on an answer if they would like you to say more. Do not be offended if your examiner interrupts you – they need to ensure they are able to ask all of the station questions in the eight minutes.

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At the end of the station time, the examiner will ask you to move onto the next station. To do this, first click “Disconnect” and second click the “Next” button once and only once. This will take you to the next station.

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You will move onto the next station, and you can see the new round (round 2, as it’s your second station) and station number. Check you are in the correct next station by referring to your station order list. Click “Connect” as you did for the first station before you do anything else. You will NOT be connected to an examiner at this stage. Do not worry about this. You should read the candidate instructions for this station while you wait, again by double clicking twice to see these in the full screen. Do not wait for the examiner to connect to you before starting to read. When your examiner connects with you at the end of the three-minute reading period you should close the information and again hold up your ID for them to check before the station starts. At the end of the station, click “Disconnect”, “Next” and “Connect” again to take you into your third station and start reading the information. Continue like this until you have completed all six stations.

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On your sixth and final station you will see that the grey “Next” button is greyed out and you cannot press it again. At the end of your time on this station, your examiner will thank you and ask you to press “Finish”. Ignore any warnings about unanswered questions and click on “Finish now”. This will exit you from the MMI. This will feel like an abrupt end to your MMI but please be reassured that we will contact you within a few days to let you know what happens next.

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Our examiners will be making a note of any serious technology issues that arise during each station. We will review all of these notes to identify the impact of the issue on our ability to make a robust and fair decision. Our evidence shows that short interruptions to a station (for example, due to transient connection issues) do not impact an examiner’s ability to make a fair and robust assessment of your values and competencies. Where there was a serious technology issue originating on our side, or one that could not have been prevented on your side (such as a power cut), we will most likely contact you to arrange a re-run of the affected station or of the entire MMI.

If you have not connected, or have moved to the wrong station, for example by pressing “Next” twice, we will try to call you to get you back on track. We therefore suggest that you keep your phone handy, but on silent so you are not disturbed by others during your MMI. We are unable to move you between stations – it is your responsibility to ensure you are in the correct station.

Please note that we do not usually offer re-interviews for candidates who are ill. We would require medical evidence to offer a re-interview date.

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Entry to WMS is competitive. Your performance in the MMI relative to that of other candidates is a key determinant in our decision as to whether to offer you a place. Therefore, while it may seem like a nice thing to do to tell candidates with later MMI dates what the content of your MMI was, in doing so, you are jeopardising your own chances of getting an offer. We are NOT recording any of the interviews and neither should you. That includes taking screen shots of the system. You should also not use any smartphone, device or reference material during your MMI (other than to show the

timer on a second device if you have one). We have recommended that you write down your station order, but you should not make any other notes. Our view is that capturing or sharing our MMI content in any way raises concerns about your professionalism and readiness to study medicine.

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We would like to thank you for taking the time to watch this video and for choosing to apply to Warwick Medical School. Please contact us with any questions and we look forward to meeting you, albeit virtually, at your MMI.