

## **NMC Announcement archive**

### **CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19): INFORMATION AND ADVICE**

#### **Local and national restrictions**

We're aware of a number of local and national restrictions across the UK, however the Northampton Competence Test Centre objective structured clinical examination (OSCE) test centre will remain open during this time.

The safety of candidates and test centre staff remains a priority for us and the centre will continue to operate in line with Covid-secure measures. Travelling to any of the three OSCE test centres to complete your OSCE is considered essential travel.

We are monitoring any restrictions and their impact on OSCE test centres and will keep you updated of any changes.

#### **Questions about your OSCE booking**

If you have any questions about your OSCE booking or your circumstances change, please contact your test centre for support.

For further details please visit the following [Nursing and Midwifery Council webpage](#).

#### **Announcement July 2020 – Reopening of the Competence Test Centre**

Dear Candidate the Nursing and Midwifery Council have announced that all three Competence Test Centres (CTC) will reopen on Monday 20th July 2020 and bookings can be made from 2nd July 2020.

#### **[Read Announcement](#)**

For general information, please visit the [NMC website](#).

#### **[Reopening FAQs](#)**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT March 2020 – COVID-19 Updates**

The NMC has made the decision to temporarily close the test centre as of 24 March 2020 in an attempt to reduce risk of spreading of the Coronavirus.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT December 2019 – Planned closure of test centre for expansion in March 2020.**

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Our test centre will close throughout March 2020, during this time we will not be able to accommodate any new tests. The last examination date will be Saturday 29 February 2020. We will be open for resits between 18 March and 27 March 2020.

Expansion of the test centre is essential to meet increased demand and ensure an enhanced candidate experience. This includes relocating the reception to the ground floor.

We will reopen on 1 April 2020 and will open every Saturday in April and May 2020 and twice a month throughout June and July for new tests. Throughout March we will commit to maintaining our high quality support to candidates via our NILE and websites.

We are excited to welcome new and existing candidates to our test centre from April 2020. If you have any questions please contact either Julie Young, Commercial Business Manager [Julie.young@northampton.ac.uk](mailto:Julie.young@northampton.ac.uk) or Michelle Thompson, Test Centre Manager [Michelle.Thompson@northampton.ac.uk](mailto:Michelle.Thompson@northampton.ac.uk).

### **ANNOUNCEMENT November 2019**

Candidates please note:

Following discussions with our three test centres, we have decided not to run the new Adult Nursing APIE Scenario at this time. We will offer the new clinical skill: Mid-Stream Specimen of Urine (MSU) and Urinalysis. This new skill will be in use across all three test centre from the 18th November, information about this skill is currently available on the NILE site.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT October 2019**

Revised Adult Nursing test supporting materials are now available from the websites of all three test centres and on the University of Northampton NILE site.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT September 2019**

As part of the ongoing review of the NMC Test of Competence Part II Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) you may be aware that a new Scenario and Skill was scheduled to be released in the coming weeks. We would like to take this opportunity to inform you that the release date for the new Adult Nursing Scenario (APIE) and an Adult Nursing Skill has been postponed by two weeks.

The new Adult Nursing Scenario (APIE) and an Adult Nursing Skill will now be in use across all three test centres from Monday 18 November 2019.

As a result, we are pleased to let you know that in conjunction with all three test centres we are currently revising and updating our test supporting materials.

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The revised Adult Nursing test supporting materials will be available on the University of Northampton NILE site from Monday 14 October 2019.

We review these documents regularly, so please check the University of Northampton NILE to ensure you are using the latest version.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT September 2019**

As part of the ongoing review of the NMC Test of Competence Part 2, we are committed to introducing new Scenarios and Skills on a regular basis. We are currently finalising a new Adult Nursing scenario (APIE) and skill. The purpose of the scenario is to ensure candidates can consider the needs of a deteriorating patient whilst the skill is community based and assesses communication skills and performing a urinalysis.

Please be advised that the revised and updated support materials to help candidates prepare for these new elements will be released on Monday 30th September in advance of their introduction in all Test Centres from Monday 28th October. These resources will be available from the websites of all three test centres and on the NILE site.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT September 2019**

We understand that there is some confusion surrounding the Administration of Inhaled Medication (AIM) as a result of contradictory information in the Royal Marsden Manual of Clinical Nursing procedures versus clinical practice. While we continue to direct you to read the Royal Marsden and confirm we continue to base our marking criteria on the Royal Marsden we would like to clarify that we have also taken into consideration the Asthma UK Guidelines. As a result the AIM Marking criteria has been revised to

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incorporate both the Royal Marsden Manual of Clinical Nursing Procedures and the Asthma UK Guidelines. The AIM marking criteria is available in Adult Marking Criteria Version R1.7.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT July 2019**

As part of the ongoing review of the NMC Test of Competence Part II Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE), new Scenarios and Skills will be introduced regularly.

A new Adult Nursing Scenario (APIE) and an Adult Nursing Skill will be in use across all three test centres from **Monday 12 August 2019**.

As a result, we are pleased to let you know that in conjunction with all three test centres we have revised and updated our test supporting materials.

The revised Adult Nursing test supporting materials are available on the NILE site.

These include:

- Revised OSCE Top tips Adult Nursing
- Adult Nursing Marking criteria
- Exemplar Documentation
- Candidate Handbook

We review these documents regularly, so please check NILE to ensure you are using the latest version.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT June 2019**

As part of the ongoing review of the NMC Test of Competence Part II Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE), new Scenarios and Skills will be introduced regularly.

A new Adult Nursing Scenario (APIE) and an Adult Nursing Skill will be in use across all three test centres from Monday 24 June 2019.

As a result, we are pleased to let you know that in conjunction with all three test centres we have revised and updated our test supporting materials.

The revised Adult Nursing test supporting materials are available on the NILE site.

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These include:

- Revised OSCE Top Tips Adult Nursing
- Adult Nursing Marking criteria
- Exemplar Documentation
- Candidate Handbook

We review these documents regularly, so please check NILE to ensure you are using the latest version.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT December 2018**

The NMC has just announced the following improvement to the OSCE process:

“We’ve been working with our three test centres on changes and improvements, taking into account feedback we’ve had from applicants and employers.

In July we changed our overseas structured clinical exam (OSCE) resit policy, which means applicants only have to resit the parts of the exam they previously failed. Test centres have now aligned the resit fees against the new resit policy, so that the reduced resit fee of £496 will be offered to all applicants who have failed four or fewer stations, regardless of which part of the exam they failed. This will mean more applicants will benefit from the reduced resit fee.

We’ve also been looking at the time between permitted attempts. As of 10 December 2018, anyone resitting an OSCE can do so as early as ten days after their previous attempt”.

**Resit requirements are changing for applicants sitting the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) from 16 July 2018. Under these new changes, test centres will only require applicants to re-sit the parts of the OSCE assessment they failed and will not need to re-sit parts of the exam they have previously passed. For more information please contact your test centre directly.**

As part of our quality assurance processes across all NMC Competence Test Centres, and in response to feedback from candidates, practice partners and other stakeholders, we have reviewed and made some amendments:

For skills stations, we will only assess the skill procedure and there will be no scenario elements to those stations. As a result, the length of skills station assessment times are

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now all 15 minutes except for Aseptic Non-Touch Technique (17 minutes) and In-Hospital Resuscitation (10 minutes)

- Clinical skills assessment criteria remain aligned to Royal Marsden procedures

These changes are applicable from 10 September 2018. Please bear these changes in mind when reviewing the handbook online which will be updated accordingly. Some support materials will also be updated to reflect changes made.