



# Marking Descriptors

Marking System*	Overall Professional Capability / Patient Care					Knowledge and Judgment			Quality of Response	
	Personal qualities	Professionalism and ethics	Surgical experience	Adaptability to stress	Ability to deal with grey areas	Knowledge	Ability to justify	Clinical reasoning	Communication skills	Organisation and logical thought process
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The candidate <u>demonstrated</u> incompetence in the diagnosis and clinical management of patients to a level which caused serious concerns to the assessor</li> </ul>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Did not get beyond default questions</li> <li>Failed in most/all competencies</li> <li>Very poor basic knowledge/judgment</li> <li>Serious concerns about his/her performance</li> </ul>			<p><b>Q:</b> Does not get beyond default questions</p> <p><b>A:</b> Disorganised/confused/inconsistent answers, lacking insight/poor English</p> <p><b>P:</b> Prompts do not work</p>	
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The candidate <u>failed to demonstrate</u> competence in the diagnosis and clinical management of patients</li> </ul>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstrated a lack of understanding</li> <li>Difficulty in prioritising</li> <li>Gaps in knowledge</li> <li>Poor deductive skills</li> <li>Poor higher order thinking</li> <li>Significant errors</li> <li>Struggled to apply knowledge/judgment/management</li> <li>Variable performance</li> </ul>			<p><b>Q:</b> Frequent use of default questions</p> <p><b>A:</b> Confused/disorganised answers; hesitant and indecisive</p> <p><b>P:</b> Required frequent prompting</p>	
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The candidate demonstrated competence in the diagnosis and clinical management of patients</li> </ul>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Good knowledge and judgment of common problems</li> <li>Important points mentioned</li> <li>Instils confidence</li> <li>No major errors</li> </ul>			<p><b>Q:</b> Copes with competence questions</p> <p><b>A:</b> Methodical approach to answers; has insight</p> <p><b>P:</b> Requires minimal prompting</p>	
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The candidate demonstrated confidence and competence in the diagnosis and clinical management of patients</li> </ul>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ability to prioritise</li> <li>Coped with difficult topics/problems</li> <li>Good decision making/provided supporting evidence</li> <li>Reached a good level of higher order thinking</li> <li>Strong interpretation/judgment but didn't quote the literature</li> </ul>			<p><b>Q:</b> Goes beyond the competence questions</p> <p><b>A:</b> Logical answers and provided good supporting reasons for answers</p> <p><b>P:</b> Fluent responses without prompting, but some prompting on literature</p>	
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The candidate demonstrated confidence and competence in the diagnosis and clinical management of patients to a level which would inspire confidence in the patient</li> </ul>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At ease with higher order thinking</li> <li>Flawless knowledge plus insight and judgment</li> <li>Good understanding/knowledge/management/prioritisation of complex issues</li> <li>Had an understanding of the breadth and depth of the topic, and quoted from literature</li> <li>High flyer</li> <li>Strong interpretation/judgment</li> </ul>			<p><b>Q:</b> Stretches assessors – answers questions at advanced level</p> <p><b>A:</b> Confident, clear, logical and focused answers</p> <p><b>P:</b> No prompting necessary</p>	

\*The Marking System scale equals other marking scales using the digits 1-5

[Q: questions A: answers P: prompting]