

# JRCPTB

Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board

## Case Based Discussion (CbD) Guidance

The CbD assesses the performance of a trainee in their management of a patient to provide an indication of competence in areas such as clinical reasoning, decision-making and application of medical knowledge in relation to patient care. It also serves as a method to document conversations about, and presentations of, cases by trainees.

The trainee should be given immediate feedback to identify strengths and areas for development. All workplace-based assessments are intended primarily to support learning so this feedback is very important

The trainee can suggest cases for discussion but the assessor makes the choice of case for the CbD and leads the discussion. Trainees in higher specialty training should be able to discuss any case with which they have had significant, recent involvement.

The CbD should focus on a written record (such as written case notes, out-patient letter, or discharge summary). A typical encounter might be when presenting newly referred patients in the out-patient department.

Assessors can be any doctor with suitable experience - for trainees in higher specialty training this is likely to be consultants. Some curricula may have specific requirements for numbers of consultant assessments.

### Descriptors of competencies demonstrated during CbD:

Medical record keeping	This section encourages the assessor to give feedback on the quality of the written record, rather than to focus the discussion on the actual record
Clinical assessment	This includes the quality of the history and eliciting of appropriate clinical signs, and the clinical reasoning behind producing a differential diagnosis
Investigations and referrals	The rationale behind the choice of investigations and referrals should be explored, not just acknowledging that the 'correct' decisions were made
Treatment / Management Plan	This includes any therapeutic intervention
Follow-up and future planning	This includes the ongoing plans for the review of the patient in clinic or on the ward.
Overall Clinical Judgement	Quality of the trainee's integrated thinking based on clinical assessment, investigations and referrals resulting in the patient's management plan