

Station Number

AFFIX CANDIDATE  
LABEL HERE

CANDIDATE No:.....

### Instructions for Candidates

#### Scenario

Jeff Lyman is a 45-year-old man who has been referred because of a depressive illness. He has described low mood for many years, but for the last six months has been off work. His GP has prescribed three different antidepressants but he has reported a number of side effects from these.

He has had longstanding problems with interpersonal relationships, and his current depressive episode has arisen in the context of relationship problems.

#### Instructions

Take a psychosexual history.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO HAND YOUR IDENTITY LABEL TO THE  
EXAMINER**

Station Number

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History Taking: Psychosexual History

CANDIDATE No:.....

### Instructions for Patients

**Answer questions based on the following scenario.**

**Do not volunteer information unless asked.**

This station tests the candidate's ability to ask personal questions about a patient's sexual behaviour and personal relationships.

You are Jeff Lyman, a 45-year-old man.

#### **Key Attributes**

You present as being mildly depressed, and preoccupied with getting better. You are embarrassed when talking about sexual/ personal matters, but are willing to do so if done tactfully. Indeed, you are keen to try and understand why your relationships often become problematic.

#### **Key Dialogue**

You have been treated for depression with Fluoxetine (Prozac), Lofepamine (Gamanil), and Citalopram (Cipramil) for the last 6 months. You have had limited response, and have also experienced an inability to have orgasms and erectile dysfunction with the antidepressants.

You are currently in a 3 year relationship to Helen, who is a 41-year-old divorcee. She works as a legal secretary. She has a 13-year-old girl from a previous marriage who lives with you both. You have cohabited for the last 2 ½ years. Her libido is higher than yours, and this sometimes causes problems. Your sexual activity has declined in the last year or so, and you blame the antidepressants. Your self-confidence has also been affected.

You don't remember exactly when you started masturbating, but you think it was probably about the same time as everyone else. You had girlfriends at school whilst you were aged 16-18, and your sexual activity at this time consisted of 'heavy petting' – mutual masturbation. You lost your virginity at 19 whilst at University, but it was a one-night-stand.

You have had a number of relationships in the past. Throughout University, you had numerous short-term (a couple of months or so) relationships, although only about 50% of these were sexual. You remember that you had problems with confidence, and usually ended the relationship when she seemed to be getting quite close to you.

You have been married once before, at the age of 25, following a three year courtship and one year engagement. You were ambivalent to getting married, but thought that it was the right thing to do. However, you were very much in love with your wife and you had a son, who is fifteen and lives with you. The marriage broke down after nine years – you say that you drifted apart, and blame your wife's job (a manager), but she was also unfaithful to you. In response to this, you had a short affair with someone from work before the marriage finally ended.

You have never been violent to any of your partners. You have been verbally aggressive, and tend to be so in situations where you feel that you are being criticised excessively.

There is no history of sexual abuse in your past. You were a single child, and sex was never discussed at home. You learnt most things from friends at school. You have never had any homosexual encounters, and add that you find it disgusting.

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History Taking: Psychosexual History

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### Instructions for Examiners

***REMEMBER TO ASK THE STUDENT FOR THEIR IDENTITY LABEL AND  
AFFIX IT TO THE TOP OF THE MARK SHEET.***

This is a clinical case where the candidate must demonstrate:

- a) An ability to quickly establish trust and rapport.
- b) An ease in discussing sensitive subjects.
- c) That they are comfortable asking very personal questions, as well as being able to decide which questions are relevant to the history.

Station Number

Examiner's Name:

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AFFIX CANDIDATE  
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CANDIDATE No:.....

History Taking: Psychosexual History

### Marking Sheet

*Please circle the appropriate mark for each criterion. The standard expected is that of a psychiatric Senior House Officer.*

Criterion	Performed competently	Performed, but not fully competent	Not performed
<b>Approach to the patient – Rapport, empathy, and style</b>	2	1	0
<b>Sensitive introduction to subject (one point for each, up to a maximum of 2):</b>			
• Asks patient's consent to proceed	1	½	0
• If patient is uncomfortable, asks if patient would like a chaperone present.	1	½	0
<b>Current relationship (one point for each, up to a maximum of 4):</b>			
• Sexual orientation	1	½	0
• Duration of relationship; length of courtship, engagement, etc.	1	½	0
• Quality of relationship	1	½	0
• Sexual behaviours (libido, frequency, practices, preferences, satisfaction of intercourse – where appropriate)	1	½	0
• Contraception	1	½	0
• History of: splits/ aggression (physical & verbal)	1	½	0
• Children (include reconstituted family)	1	½	0
<b>Previous relationships (one point for each, up to a maximum of 3):</b>			
• Overall number; longest lasting; sexual orientation; patterns of behaviour (e.g. violence); reasons for breakdown; how coped following breakdown	1	½	0
• Patient's views on quality of relationships in past	1	½	0
• If heterosexual, ask about homosexual fantasies, encounters, and vice versa	1	½	0
• Fidelity	1	½	0
<b>Sexual History (one point for each, up to a maximum of 3):</b>			
• Age of first sexual activity	1	½	0
• Age of first sexual intercourse	1	½	0
• Age of first girl/ boyfriend (if delayed, ask about shyness, parental, and personal attitudes)	1	½	0

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sexual abuse/ trauma</li> </ul>	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0		
<b>Attitudes (one point for each, up to a maximum of 2):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of secondary sexual characteristics</li> <li>Acquisition of sexual information</li> <li>Sexual attitude, inclinations and practice</li> <li>History of sexual problems (premature ejaculation, erectile dysfunction, etc. and context)</li> </ul>	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0		
	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0		
	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0		
	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0		
<b>Overall Approach to Task</b>	4	3	2	1	0

Score (Max 20)	
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Overall Grading of station	<b>Clear Pass</b>	<b>Borderline</b>	<b>Clear Fail</b>
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