

Station Number

AFFIX CANDIDATE  
LABEL HERE

CANDIDATE No:.....

### Instructions for Candidates

#### Scenario

Mr Eddie Davies is a 65-year-old man who has had a recent stroke. He has been left with a mild expressive dysphasia and a left hemiparesis. He requires a Zimmer Frame to mobilise and assessments have indicated that he is unsafe in a kitchen. Although his abilities have improved, the medical team do not think that he will recover any further function.

His medical team don't think that he is able to look after himself at home, and wish to place him in a local nursing home. He doesn't want to go to a nursing home and wants to go home. He is willing to allow the Social Work department to provide support for him at home.

#### Instructions

Assess his capacity to make a decision about going home, using the guidelines for capacity provided by the Adults With Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000.

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

Station Number

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Mental State Examination: Assessing Capacity

CANDIDATE No:.....

### Instructions for Patients

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

**You should volunteer information that would normally come out in a normal conversation.**

This station tests the candidate's ability to examine specific aspects of the mental state.

You are Eddie Davies, a 65-year-old man. You prefer to be called Mr Davies, and don't like people calling you 'Eddie' or 'Edward'. If you addressed as such, you should remonstrate with the candidate.

#### Key Attributes

Your speech is a little slow, and you occasionally say the wrong word. However, you are fully oriented in time, person, and place. You get quite frustrated at your difficulties with language, and may appear to be irritable at times.

#### Key Dialogue

The aspects of your understanding are as follows:

1. The doctors have told you that you have had a stroke. You understand this to mean that you have lost some of your previous abilities. You think that it's just temporary and that with practice, things will get better.
2. You are aware that you can no longer do as much as you used to. All you need is the help of the physiotherapists.
  - a. You don't have any alternatives, or back-up plans if things go wrong. You think that it would be unlikely and refuse to accept that things wouldn't be fine if you went home.
3. You wish to go home for the following reasons:
  - a. You have lived there for the last 16 years
  - b. Your son lives only 3 miles away and you want him to be close by so that he can help out. You don't see your son that frequently, although he does drop by about once a month. You fell out a couple of years ago and haven't been that close since.
4. You don't want to go to a nursing home because:
  - a. You don't see why you should move
  - b. You have paid taxes all your life and believe that you should be getting help at home
  - c. You have known people who have gone into homes and you have never liked the look of the places
5. You do understand that you may struggle at home for the first week or so, but

can't really see any problems that you wouldn't cope with. You think that you would phone your son to come round to sort out any difficulties. You don't think that he'd mind.

6. You would have no problems with various people coming to your home and helping, be they physiotherapists, nurses, social workers, etc.

*Notes*

If challenged about your difficulties in self-care, you dismiss them by saying that lots of people aren't good in kitchens or struggle with keeping clean.

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Mental State Examination: Assessing Capacity

CANDIDATE No:.....

### Instructions for Examiners

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

This station requires the candidate to have a firm grasp of:

1. The fundamentals of the concepts of capacity described within the Adults With Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000
2. A robust approach to the assessment of capacity
3. Understanding that capacity is not 'absolute' and has to be judged in the context of each specific decision.

The candidate is not requested to persuade the patient that they should be going into a nursing home. Such an approach is likely to lead to a fail. The candidate must explore the patient's understanding of the issues and their ability to make decisions about their treatment and care.

The candidate is not expected to offer a judgement about the patient's capacity. This station is about assessing their approach to exploring a patient's capacity.

Whilst demonstrating that the patient can retain the memory of their decision may be difficult within the constraints of an OSCE station, the candidate should indicate that they would reassess at a later date in order to score fully on this criterion.

Station Number

Examiner's Name:

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Mental State Examination: Assessing Capacity

CANDIDATE No:.....

### 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		
Assessment of the patient's ability to make a decision about their future care	4	2	0		
Assessment of the patient's ability to understand that decision in terms of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implications of the decision</li> <li>• Consequences of the decision</li> <li>• Alternative choices</li> </ul>	4	2	0		
Demonstrates ability of the patient to communicate the decision	3	1 ½	0		
Indicates that he/ she would reassess the patient to ensure that they can retain the memory of their decision	3	1 ½	0		
<b>Overall Approach to Task</b>	4	3	2	1	0

Score (Max 20)

Overall Grading of station

**Clear Pass**

**Borderline**

**Clear Fail**