Com petencies (CASC) examination conducted by the Royal College of Psychiatrists in the United Kingdom in October 2009, we had the pleasure of visiting the Clinical Assessment of Skills and Competencies (CASC) examination conducted by the Royal College of Psychiatrists in the United Kingdom. The CASC examination is designed to assess core psychiatric clinical skills and we were impressed with the clear and comprehensive format of the examination. We found the examination to be well-structured and fair, and the content to be relevant and up-to-date. The examination was administered in a variety of formats, including written, oral, and practical assessments.

Both of us have participated extensively in psychiatric education and in the corresponding assessment processes conducted in psychiatry by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. We were struck by the remarkable quality of the content of the CASC examination, as well as the efficiency and economy of the design and implementation. The CASC examination is an appropriate and challenging comprehensive evaluation process, which has required and benefited from a tremendous amount of effort and expertise on the part of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

Correspondence should be sent to:

Amit Malik, Psychiatry Registrar, Hampshire Partnership NHS Trust, UK, email amit.malik@hptn.org

Joan M. Anzia MD and David J. Lynn MD

*Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Vice Chair for Education, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, Illinois, USA; email joan.aziz@ northwestern.edu

**Professor of Psychiatry, Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine, Maywood, Illinois, USA.

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