

Dear Project Lead

The College of Paramedics Diploma in Primary and Urgent Care (DipPUC) is a professional examination designed to test the knowledge and skills of those who practice, in this domain. It sets a standard in examination and simulation which:

- Enables the candidate to demonstrate their knowledge and ability to manage patients in a range of primary care settings and encounters
- Demonstrates to employers the quality and safety of the standard of care offered by successful candidates
- Provides a benchmark for all candidates, regardless of background and experience.

Professional examinations such as these are common across higher professional groups and important for benchmarking clinical practice and standards. This benchmarking provides a level of governance by assuring employers, employees, patients and insurers that clinical practitioners have reached required standards to practice in an environment that presents many challenges including uncertainty and ambiguity.

The DipPUC offers an ideal benchmark of skills and knowledge for paramedics taking part in the Rotating Paramedic Programme. Candidates are assessed on the basis of current skills and knowledge, regardless of previous experience or qualifications. The DipPUC is also open for entry by any other registered professional working in the field of Primary and Urgent Care. It is designed to test the application of knowledge, skills, communication and attitudes across a broad spectrum of clinical presentations. There is a focus within the examination on communication and decision making in the context of risk stratification rather than risk avoidance, for those who practice in clinical environments that hold high degrees of ambiguity. Decision making in primary and urgent care requires full acceptance of concepts such as patient autonomy and patient empowerment and these are built in to the assessment process.

The DipPUC has three components:

- Work Place Based Assessment Supervision Report
  - To be submitted with application
- Applied Knowledge Test
  - Paper formed of 150 single best answer (SBA) questions
- OSCEs
  - Series of 15 x 10-minute stations
  - Simulation based assessment of knowledge, skills and behaviours used in daily practice

For more information please see the enclosed Guidance and Regulation document and Application Form or contact Yvonne Cooze, Examinations Manager via email:

Yvonne.cooze@collegeofparamedics.co.uk

Yours faithfully



Gary Strong  
National CPD Lead