

MFOM Part 2 SBA Blueprint

The MFOM Part 2 Single Best Answer (SBA) examination paper tests the knowledge base underpinning occupational medicine practice in the UK within the context of the NHS, the independent provider and the military.

Candidates will have 3 hours to answer 180 questions. The blueprint for SBA questions will be mapped to the OMST 2022 Curriculum Learning Outcomes in the proportions indicated below.

Learning Outcome	Description	Weighting
1	Professional values and behaviours	10%
3	Professional skills and knowledge. Clinical practice	30%
4	Workplace risk	20%
5	Health promotion and illness prevention	10%
7	Patient safety	10%
9	Safeguarding	5%
11	Research	15%

The following provides a detailed breakdown of the Professional Capabilities, Principles and Topics that will be mapped within each Learning Outcome.

The topics are provided as examples only and are not representative of the exact questions that will appear in the SBA exam.

Learning Outcome 1: Professional values and behaviours

Professional Capabilities	Principles	Topics
Maintains confidentiality but judges when disclosure is required in relation to legal accountability ethical principles and safety considerations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limits of confidentiality. Relevant legal UK Acts and Regulations. Good Medical and Occupational Practice. Relevant ethical guidance. Application of these to the occupational health activities including the consultation, research, workplace visits, health surveillance, fitness for work, rehabilitation and occupational management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consent. Confidentiality. General Medical Principles. Good Occupational Medical Practice. FOM ethical guidance. UK health, safety and discrimination legislation. Relevant legislation related to confidentiality and consent, disclosure and fitness to work.
Applies knowledge of specific legislation and ethical frameworks across all four nations, advising workers and managers.		
Recognises and appropriately applies principles reflecting the importance of medical ethics, confidentiality and consent.		

Learning Outcome 3: Professional skills and knowledge: Clinical practice

Professional Capabilities	Principles	Topics
<p>Considers the full range of management options available, including pre-placement assessment, sickness absence, modified duties, ill health retirement and/or redeployment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knows and applies relevant clinical and occupational guidance to common conditions affecting workers and work-related ill health in preplacement. • Fitness for work (including specific roles and duties). • Health surveillance and ill health retirement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fitness for work decisions. Adjustments. • Redeployment. • Ill health retirement. • Fitness for specific roles and jobs. Occupational risk factors. Investigation and management of common conditions and occupational diseases.
<p>Assesses and manages workers with chronic disease and those rehabilitating from acute injury or ill health using the biopsychosocial model.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applies person-centred approach to practice. • Understands the multiple factors that can affect health at work. • Can take an occupational health history and formulate a management plan taking into account biological, psychological and social factors effecting an employee and advise management accordingly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implications of pain, fatigue and depression on work. • The interplay between physical and mental health. • The role of social factors and beliefs in occupational health.
<p>Assesses functional capacity and evaluates fitness for work, to include initial, periodic and statutory assessment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can interpret clinical information including symptoms and functional capacity. • Investigations and occupational risk factors to advise on fitness for work in preplacement. • Duties and roles requiring requirements to be met. • Applies evidence-based guidelines relevant to occupational medicine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation of investigations used for assessment of functional capacity to work, for example, spirometry and audiometry. • Workplace visits. • Ethics and confidentiality when assessing fitness to work. • Application of FOM, NICE and other industry guidelines to clinical practice and policy. • Legal and ethical aspects. • Functional implications of diseases and syndromes.
<p>Liaises with other healthcare professionals as appropriate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands the roles of other professionals in occupational health. • Understands when to refer to other health care professionals. • Can interpret information from other professionals in the context of the workplace. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workplace visits. • Occupational hygiene measurements and interpretation. • Ethics and confidentiality.
<p>Diagnoses work-related ill health and occupational disease.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can interpret clinical information including symptoms and clinical signs. • Investigations and occupational risk factors to diagnose work related ill health. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical history taking and examination. • Understanding association and causation. • Occupational hygiene. • Diagnostic tests used in occupational medicine. • Risk assessments.

Learning Outcome 4: Workplace Risk

Professional Capabilities	Principles	Topics
Provides workplace managers with appropriate recommendations, including health surveillance and occupational hygiene input, aimed at workplace improvements in relation to health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is able to interpret workplace factors and investigations to appropriately advise on recommendations including the results of health surveillance and workplace visits and the investigation of disease clusters to identify. Assess and manage risks and mitigate disease across a range of settings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hazard classification. Hierarchy of control and risk reduction methods. Interpretation of relevant investigations/ measurements (including hygiene, health surveillance, biological and biological exposure monitoring). Risk stratification. Occupational causation of disease.
Liaises with safety representatives, safety officers, occupational hygienists, ergonomists and other specialists in the assessment of working environments.		
Explains and manages the difference between association and causation in a workplace setting		

Learning Outcome 5: Health promotion and illness prevention

Professional Capabilities	Principles	Topics
Demonstrates knowledge of cultural, social, religious and economic factors and their influence on workplace health and wider public health within a biopsychosocial model.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is able to advise on when and how health surveillance and biological monitoring should be put in place. Understands how health promotion needs to be tailored towards different cultural groups. Prioritisation of workplace health promotional activities. 	Primary, secondary and tertiary prevention.
Assesses the need for, organises, delivers and evaluates health promotion across a range of workplace environments.		Principles of behaviour change.
Recognises and advises on health risks in the local environment arising from workplace activities.		Sensitivity, specificity and predictive value of screening tests.

Learning Outcome 7: Patient safety

Professional Capabilities	Principles	Topics
Demonstrates the ability to mitigate against safety risks.	Able to recognise and advise on safety risks and escalate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety critical work. • Principles of risk mitigation.
Recognises when safety has been compromised and escalates appropriately.		

Learning Outcome 9: Safeguarding

Professional Capabilities	Principles	Topics
Promotes the professional responsibility of safeguarding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands and applies guidance related to safeguarding responsibilities of a clinician. • Understands principles of discrimination, bullying, and harassment. • Understands and applies relevant legislation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protected characteristics. • Equality Act. • Other relevant legislation. Relevant guidance and good practice. • At risk adults. • Children.
Demonstrates knowledge of workplace bullying and harassment and the impact on workplace health.		

Learning Outcome 11: Research

Professional Capabilities	Principles	Topics
Adopts an evidence-based approach to occupational medicine.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is able to critically appraise research including defining and interpreting common statistical tests and assessing bias. • Understands the use of and strengths and limitations of different study designs used in occupational epidemiology. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of study design. • Types of bias and confounding, how they can be mitigated and how they might influence the results of a study. • Association and causation. • Common parametric and non-parametric statistics, p values and confidence limits. • Standardised and proportionate mortality ratios, use of census data. • Job exposure matrices. • Investigation of clusters. • Common statistical analysis including descriptive, correlation and regression.
Demonstrates independent evidence-based development to support the revision of guidelines and procedures.		
Capable in the use and management of information, and the reflective use of information technology.		