Clinical Exam Top tips
Sophie Constantinou, Sian Williams, Assim Javaid

0:00: Intro

2:27: What is the point of the MRCPCH clinical exam?

2:40: https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/mrcpch-clinical-examination-candidate-guidance

4.13: Top tips

Revise as a group. Spend more time in hospital > book work. Don’t start revising too early and get burnt out! (aim ~6 weeks)

5:59: Maximising time on the ward

Speak to examiners. Lead ward round under exam conditions (timed). Go to clinic! Try and attend specialist clinics e.g. liver, neonatal and community clinics. Developmental assessment on anyone – ask pt siblings to help! Approach every interaction with patients as an examination station

8:51: Tips for the day itself

Get there the day before & plan route to hospital. Dress appropriately. Pack both shoes....! Put mark sheets in the right order before you start. Take a deep breath between stations.

13:51: Exam techniques

‘Script’ for presentation. Clear, confident, don’t waffle

London deanery MRCPCH website: https://mrcpch.paediatrics.co.uk/

Back to child when presenting, hands behind back, good eye contact, practice in the mirror. Deep breath within stations, moments to collect your thoughts

17.29: Books and resources

Damien Roland – Circuits for the MRCPCH (try and get out of library as very expensive) https://www.amazon.co.uk/Circuits-MRCPCH-Study-Guides/dp/0443103356


Youtube patient syndromes and stories e.g. congenital myotonic dystrophy

21:22: General tips

Know charities for chronic disease and the role of members of the MDT

22:00: Development station

Mary Sheridan ‘From birth to 5 years’ https://www.amazon.co.uk/Mary-Sheridans-Birth-Five-Years/dp/041583354X


Only use one resource for learning development & make your own table / flashcards. London Paeds Website is a good example: http://mrcpch.paediatrics.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Development-Assessment-MRCPCH-Website.pdf

Expect pathology. It’s not a spot diagnosis!

Clinic waiting rooms, play room on ward, friends’ children!