

Certificate in Geriatric Medicine & Diploma in Geriatric Medicine

Regulations for examination candidates

Applicable from 1 December 2026

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1. Introduction

These regulations apply to the Certificate in Geriatric Medicine (CGM) knowledge-based assessment and the Diploma in Geriatric Medicine (DGM) clinical examination from 1 December 2026. The CGM and DGM are developed and delivered by the Royal College of Physicians (RCP) Assessment Unit on behalf of the RCP and the British Geriatrics Society (BGS).

Both the CGM and DGM examinations will continue to change to reflect developments in the care of older people, and candidates should refer to the CGM & DGM website for the most up-to-date information and examination regulations. By applying for the CGM or DGM examinations, candidates are confirming that they have read, understood and will abide by these regulations, the RCP Assessment Unit Candidate Code of Conduct, and the guidance on the CGM & DGM website.

2. Entry requirements for the CGM KBA

All statutorily regulated healthcare practitioners, currently registered and in good standing with the relevant regulator[1], and with no restrictions on their practice, are eligible to apply to take the CGM.

For applicants declaring a UK registration, the RCP assessment unit will check registration with the relevant UK regulator (GMC, NMC, or HCPC, for example), including a check for any restriction to practise.

Applicants who hold registration with a regulator outside the UK will also have their registration checked with the relevant regulator, including a check for any restriction to practise. Where initial verification is not possible (for example in the absence of a current, accurate online register), the RCP assessment unit reserves the right to ask an applicant for further proof of current registration, for example a certificate of good standing.

The RCP assessment unit reserves the right to refuse entry to the examination to candidates who do not meet the eligibility criteria set out above.

3. Entry requirements for the DGM clinical examination

Candidates are only eligible for the DGM clinical examination upon successful completion of the CGM KBA.

Candidates must be currently registered and in good standing with the relevant regulator[2] with no restrictions on their practice.

For applicants declaring a UK registration, the RCP assessment unit will check registration with the relevant UK regulator (GMC, NMC, or HCPC, for example), including a check for any restriction to practise.

Applicants who hold registration with a regulator outside the UK will also have their registration checked with the relevant regulator, including a check for any restriction to practise. Where initial verification is not possible (for example in the absence of a current, accurate online register), the RCP assessment unit reserves the right to ask an applicant for further proof of current registration, for example a certificate of good standing.

[1] Good standing includes holding a current licence to practice, where applicable.

[2] See note 1

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Candidates have four years from the date of notification that they have successfully completed the CGM KBA to then pass the DGM clinical examination. Candidates who do not complete the clinical examination within four years of completing the CGM KBA will be required to retake the KBA, should they wish to make any further applications to the DGM clinical examination. Candidates who retake and pass the KBA will receive a new four-year eligibility period, beginning when they receive their results, but will not receive an updated Certificate in Geriatric Medicine.

Eligibility of a previous KBA pass may, in exceptional circumstances (for example long-term illness or parental leave), be extended by up to 12 months. Any extension is at the discretion of the CGM & DGM Senior Examiner, whose decision will be final.

4. Additional entry requirements

4.1 Candidates with constraints on their practice

Candidates who have been erased from the register of their regulatory body (or that of the equivalent body in their country of registration) for reasons related to fitness to practise are not permitted entry to the CGM KBA or DGM clinical examination.

Candidates who are suspended from practice by their regulatory body (or equivalent international body) and/or their employer are not permitted entry to CGM KBA or DGM clinical examination until the suspension has been lifted.

Candidates who are subject to any warnings, interim orders, undertakings or conditions on their practice from their regulatory body (or equivalent international body) and/or their employer must declare this information to the RCP Assessment Unit and may be permitted to enter the CGM KBA and/or DGM clinical examination at the discretion of the CGM & DGM Senior Examiner. The decision of the CGM & DGM Senior Examiner is final.

Candidates should note that failure to declare conditions, warnings or suspension at the time of application, or prior to the examination date for which they have entered will result in a misconduct case being opened, in line with the RCP Assessment Unit Candidate Code of Conduct.

Where candidates are making a declaration, this must be done via email and disclose all the relevant information as to why the condition or undertaking has been imposed.

4.2 Limited number of attempts

Candidates are permitted a maximum of six attempts at the CGM KBA[3] and six attempts at the DGM clinical examination. After six attempts, a candidate will be required to undertake additional educational experience for each subsequent attempt and submit evidence of this via the CGM & DGM additional attempt form. In determining whether a candidate has satisfied the requirements sufficiently to enable them to undertake a further attempt, the decision of the RCP Assessment Unit will be final. Please see the CGM & DGM Limit on Attempts policy for further details.

4.3 Application process

Details of how to apply are given on the CGM & DGM websites.

[3] Attempts at the DGM KBA, which was replaced by the CGM in January 2027, do not count towards the number of permitted attempts.

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All applications must be received by 11:00 (UK time) on the advertised closing date. Late applications will not be accepted.

4.4 Examination fee payments

Details of the current examination fees, examination dates, and opening and closing dates for applications are published on the CGM & DGM websites.

Payment of examination fees can only be made via credit or debit card. Payments via cash or cheque/banker's draft are not accepted.

Any card details received in emails or as attachments will be deleted immediately and payments will not be actioned.

4.5 Identification

Candidates will not be allowed into any CGM KBA or DGM clinical examination without passing the appropriate identification (ID) checks.

For the CGM KBA, a candidate's identity will be verified during the boarding process. If the facial recognition software detects that the individual present on the day of the assessment does not match the image provided by the candidate during the installation process, then the candidate will not be permitted entry to the assessment. Additional identity checks may also be carried out by invigilators, at the discretion of the RCP Assessment Unit.

For the DGM clinical examination, candidates will not be permitted to sit the examination unless they produce suitable identification upon arrival at the assessment centre.

This will normally be a passport. Where candidates do not possess a passport, some other form of identification may be acceptable, providing that it includes both a photograph and signature of the candidate (see list of Primary ID below).

Acceptable primary ID

- Current valid passport (containing photograph and signature)
- Full or provisional photocard driving licence
- EEA Member State identity photocard
- National identity photocard for non-EEA foreign nationals
- Identity card issued by the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland

Alternatively, two forms of identification, one with a photograph and the other with a signature, will be accepted (see list of secondary ID).

Acceptable secondary ID

Two forms of secondary ID will need to be shown together, e.g., NHS/hospital identity card with a debit card. At least one of these must contain a photograph:

- Valid credit or debit card
- Valid student card with photograph

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- NHS/hospital identity card
- Paper driving licence
- Certified copy of passport or driving licence[4]

Additional forms of ID may be considered provided candidates contact the RCP Assessment Unit well in advance of the examination.

The name on the candidate's ID must exactly match that on the admission document issued by the Royal College of Physicians (RCP) Assessment Unit. This will be the name provided during your application, usually your first name(s) followed by surname.

Name discrepancies

Candidates must notify the RCP Assessment Unit if the name as it appears on the identification that will be used to gain entry to the examination is different from the name that was provided on their application.

Names can have significant spelling variations, including those that are phonetically translated into English from other languages. For example, the name 'MacDonald' may appear as 'McDonald' or 'Macdonald'; the name 'Mohammed' may appear as 'Mohamed', 'Mahammed', 'Mahamed', or 'Muhammed'. Such discrepancies will not be accepted for the purposes of entry to the CGM KBA or DGM clinical examination, as they do not allow invigilators to accurately identify candidates.

It is the candidate's responsibility to resolve any discrepancies with the RCP Assessment Unit before the examination. Please contact the RCP Assessment Unit via CGM@rcp.ac.uk or DGM@rcp.ac.uk with any queries regarding name discrepancies.

Name changes

Candidates who change their name by marriage or deed poll must submit the original or authenticated documentary proof of this if they wish to be admitted to the examination under their new name.

Candidates are advised to provide authenticated copies of any original documentation by email. The RCP Assessment Unit cannot accept responsibility for any items lost in transit.

Name format

RCP Assessment Unit records, and the CGM and DGM certificates, show forenames followed by the family name, for example 'Alan John Smith'.

5. Format

The CGM examination consists of an online knowledge-based assessment (KBA). The KBA is multiple choice ('best-of-five' or single best answer format), containing 200 single best answer questions, split over 4 papers. Each paper is 90 minutes in duration. The CGM KBA is taken online at an appropriate location (a candidate's home or office, for example). The Certificate in Geriatric Medicine is awarded upon successful completion of the KBA.

[4] These documents must be accompanied by an official stamp or letter from the issuing organisation to qualify as an acceptable form of ID. Self-made photocopies will not be accepted without such official corroboration.

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The DGM examination is an objective structured clinical examination (OSCE), with candidates undertaking four clinical stations designed to assess their ability to carry out essential clinical skills. In three of the four stations candidates will be presented with either patients with a given medical condition or a trained simulated patient. No patient/simulated patient is present in station two (comprehensive geriatric assessment). Each station lasts 15 minutes, with an additional 5 minutes prior to each station allocated to allow candidates to familiarise themselves with the scenario. The Diploma in Geriatric Medicine is awarded upon successful completion of the clinical examination.

5.1 Marking system for the CGM KBA

The marking system is as follows:

- One mark (+1) is awarded for each correct answer
- No mark is deducted for an incorrect answer (i.e., there is no negative marking)
- No mark is awarded or deducted if a question is left unanswered
- No mark is awarded if more than one answer is recorded, or the answer is not sufficiently clear
- The pass mark for the CGM KBA is calculated using the Hofstee method of standard setting.
- To achieve a pass in the CGM KBA candidates must achieve or exceed this overall pass mark.

5.2 Marking system for the DGM clinical examination

Each station will be assessed by two examiners[5]. The marks awarded on all eight marksheets will determine the candidate's overall score.

The marks are recorded on a four-point grading system; clear fail, fail, pass and clear pass. These grades are then converted to a numeric value of 1–4 (clear fail = 1, fail = 2, pass = 3, clear pass = 4).

The DGM clinical examination is marked out of a total of 32 marks (the maximum available from the eight marksheets).

The pass mark for the examination is confirmed for each assessment period by the DGM Examination Board following a review of the examination's performance.

5.3 Results

Result letters will be sent to candidates via email from the RCP Assessment Unit. Certificates are awarded upon successful completion of the CGM KBA and the DGM clinical examination.

Pseudo anonymised result data will be used for the purpose of standard setting and quality assurance. This data may also be used by the RCP and/or BGS for research and marketing purposes.

6. Candidate responsibilities

Candidates should:

Ensure that their application is fully complete

Candidates must submit the application within the application period.

[5] In the event that only 7 examiners are available the marks for one station will be duplicated. Candidates will be informed in writing of this change prior to the examination and will be given the right to withdraw.

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An application is considered complete only upon receiving full payment of fees and confirmation of eligibility. The RCP Assessment Unit will contact candidates to advise them of any outstanding information and will provide a deadline for receipt.

Candidates will not be permitted to take the CGM KBA or DGM clinical examination until their eligibility has been confirmed. Candidates who apply for an examination who are subsequently found to be ineligible will have their application withdrawn and their examination fee refunded in full.

Eligible candidates will not be permitted to take any part of the examination unless all outstanding fees have been paid in full. If payment of fees is not completed by the provided deadline, the candidate's application will be withdrawn. Once withdrawn, an application cannot be reinstated.

It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that any correspondence is sent securely and received within given deadlines.

Provide full contact details

It is the candidate's responsibility to provide full and accurate contact details (email address and telephone number) at the time of registration, and to ensure that any change is notified to the RCP Assessment Unit as soon as possible. Candidates should ensure the email address provided at the point of application is fully accessible for the duration of the assessment period, including the date upon which results are released.

Read and act on any correspondence from the RCP Assessment Unit

Candidates must ensure that they read all correspondence issued by the RCP Assessment Unit up to and including the day of the examination.

On rare occasions changes to the examination arrangements may have to be made at short notice. The RCP Assessment Unit will use the email address provided to inform candidates of these changes. Candidates who are absent or late for an examination because they did not read such an email will not be automatically entitled to a refund.

Not give false information

Giving false information on the application form and/or submitting false documentation before, during or after any part of an examination will be regarded as an act of suspected misconduct and be investigated accordingly.

Be feeling well enough to undertake the examination

It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that they are physically, mentally, and emotionally fit to sit an examination. Should a candidate feel unwell prior to the start of the examination, they should inform the RCP Assessment Unit via email, or a member of staff or an invigilator on the day of the examination and consider withdrawing from the examination. Candidates are reminded to be aware of their responsibilities as healthcare professionals to take into account any risks that their own health may pose to others, such as candidates, examiners, RCP staff and patients.

Consider the time required to obtain any necessary visas

If a candidate requires a visa to sit an examination, it is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that they are eligible to receive a visa for entry to the UK.

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It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that a visa application is made in sufficient time before the examination date for which it has been sought.

6.1 Reasonable adjustments

Any candidate who has a physical disability, specific learning difficulty or any other condition that they believe would disadvantage them compared with other candidates in an examination, may be entitled to reasonable adjustments.

It is the candidate's responsibility to notify the RCP Assessment Unit of any reasonable adjustment request in writing at the time of application and provide supporting evidence in line with the RCP Assessment Unit reasonable adjustment policy.

Candidates should not assume that previously agreed reasonable adjustments will be carried forward to a future examination. Candidates must notify the RCP Assessment Unit of any request at each examination attempt.

If the requested adjustments cannot be implemented, the candidate may either withdraw from the examination or proceed without the adjustments.

Candidates who qualify for reasonable adjustments may not always be able to sit in the location of their choice.

Special arrangements purely for candidate convenience cannot be made. Candidate convenience includes provision for social events (such as holidays), courses, seminars and any other clinical commitments.

6.2 Candidate conduct

The standards of behaviour expected of those applying to and sitting the examinations are outlined in the code of conduct for examination applicants and candidates.

Candidates are advised to be aware that any breach of the CGM or DGM examination regulations will result in a misconduct investigation and the possibility of severe penalties.

The RCP Assessment Unit reserves the right to use various methods to identify candidates who attempt to copy, collude, or perform some other act that may be regarded as academic misconduct in the DGM examinations. This includes facial recognition, environment and device monitoring and key stroke analysis that seeks to detect instances of misconduct or collusion by recording all candidates' actions and patterns of behaviour. Should it be determined that there is sufficient evidence of possible misconduct, then the candidate(s) concerned will be contacted and the formal misconduct regulations may be invoked.

7. Withdrawal, absence and cancellation of examinations

Notice of withdrawal from the CGM KBA or DGM clinical examination must be given by email to the RCP Assessment Unit via CGM@rcp.ac.uk or DGM@RCP.ac.uk.

Candidates should give their full name in their request to withdraw, along with their candidate number if known, to allow staff to identify candidates easily.

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Withdrawal will not count as an attempt at the examination.

Automatic refunds, which do not require supporting evidence, will be provided as follows:

CGM KBA	
Withdrawal request received	**Refund percentage**
During application period	100%
More than 7 days before exam date	90%
Less than 7 days before exam date[6]	0%

DGM clinical exam	
Withdrawal request received	**Refund percentage**
During application period	100%
More than 28 days before exam date	90%
Less than 28 days before exam date[7]	0%

This does not apply to candidates who are subsequently confirmed as being ineligible for the examination. In such instances a full refund will be provided.

Examination applications and/or fees cannot be transferred from one assessment period to another.

7.1 Absence

Candidates who do not attend the examination, without notifying the RCP Assessment Unit, will be recorded as absent.

Refunds will not be made where candidates are absent unless there are circumstances deemed exceptional that can be substantiated.

Absence will not count as an attempt at the examination.

7.2 Cancellation of examinations

On very rare occasions, it may be necessary for the RCP Assessment Unit to cancel an examination. In these circumstances, the RCP Assessment Unit will refund in full the examination fee of any candidate allocated to the affected examination centre(s) and change the status of each affected candidate to 'withdrawn'.

Unfortunately, the RCP Assessment Unit cannot be responsible for any expenses (such as travel or accommodation) incurred by a candidate in the event of such a cancellation.

[6] 90% refunds may be considered after this date, where exceptional circumstances arise that prevent a candidate from attending an examination. Where this is the case supporting evidence must be provided. All requests will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

[7] See note 6

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A cancelled examination will not count as one of the candidate's six attempts allowed for an examination.

8. Attending the CGM knowledge-based assessment

Any infringement of the following rules and regulations may be reported to the RCP Assessment Unit for consideration in accordance with the RCP Assessment Unit Candidate Code of Conduct.

8.1 Before the assessment

Candidates must download the required software and complete the installation process by the deadline stated. Candidates who complete the installation of software after the stated deadline will still be permitted to take the examination but do so entirely at their own risk. The RCP Assessment Unit accepts no responsibility for any technical issues encountered by candidates who complete the setup of their device after the stated deadline. No refund will be given in these instances, unless there are circumstances deemed exceptional that can be substantiated.

Candidates must comply fully with all the requirements of the online assessment software to complete the set-up process. This includes providing an image of themselves and their environment via their webcam, as well as allowing the software access to their device to capture screenshots (of both themselves and their interactions with the software) and undertake keystroke analysis for the duration of their assessment.

The Royal College of Physicians observes sensitivity in the visual identification of candidates, but advance notice should be given by candidates of any anticipated difficulties.

Candidates should install the assessment software on the device they wish to use on the day of the examination. Technical difficulties encountered during the installation process should be reported using the help facility within the software as soon as possible so support can be provided in resolving these ahead of the assessment.

It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that the device they use for their assessment meets the minimum specification required. Candidates who choose to use devices which do not meet the minimum specification do so entirely at their own risk. The RCP Assessment Unit accepts no responsibility for technical issues encountered by a candidate which are caused by devices which do not meet the minimum specification.

Candidates who wish to take the KBA at their course provider must have this approved by both the RCP Assessment Unit and their course provider prior to commencing the KBA, to ensure that the environment in which they are taking their KBA conforms with examination regulations. Candidates who fail to declare they are taking their KBA at their course provider may be in breach of the examination regulations and may be the subject of candidate misconduct proceedings.

8.2 On the day of the assessment

Candidates should start the boarding process for their assessment at the time indicated in their Orzone application. Candidates will not be permitted to sit the assessment if they start the boarding process more than 15 minutes later than the indicated start time of each paper, unless they have been affected by technical difficulties that they have made Orzone aware of as soon as practicable.

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Maintaining the security and integrity of the CGM KBA is of paramount importance. Candidates must comply fully with all the requirements of the online assessment software when commencing their KBA by providing an image of themselves and their environment via their webcam, as well as allowing the software access to their device to capture screenshots. Where they do not, candidates will be permitted 15 minutes, from the point at which they are recorded as not complying with the requirements, to restore connectivity to their webcam and/or provide screenshots of their device.

At the end of this 15-minute period, if connectivity is not restored, a candidate's participation will be ended, and the attempt annulled. A refund of a candidate's KBA fee will only be provided where there is clear evidence that technical issues outside of the candidate's control were responsible for the lack of webcam images or capturing of screenshots.

8.3 During the assessment

Examination content must not be copied or recorded in any way. If an invigilator suspects that a candidate is attempting to copy assessment content, they will contact the candidate, ask them to stop any activity, and make a report of the incident to the RCP Assessment Unit.

Candidates are permitted to use blank paper for making notes (a maximum of six loose pages, i.e., not bound in a notebook). These must be shown to the invigilator at the start of the assessment and destroyed in front of the invigilator at the end of each examination paper.

Candidates must not switch off their webcam during the assessment or attempt to disable any feature of the software. Technical difficulties should be reported using the help facility as soon as possible during the assessment so support can be provided in resolving these. Candidates should report any issues encountered to the RCP Assessment Unit after the assessment so these can be taken into account during results processing.

Candidates must:

- Ensure that they are in an appropriate environment for sitting the examination with no other people present and demonstrate this to the invigilator prior to starting.
- Accept the non-disclosure agreement prior to starting the examination.
- Complete both examination papers in the correct order on the same day or their results will not be counted.

Candidates are permitted to:

- Submit their answers and exit from the assessment software if they finish before the advertised end time. They are not required to stay online for the full duration of the paper if they have completed it. Candidates will not be permitted to re-enter a paper once they have submitted their answers.
- Use devices connected to their computer to ensure uninterrupted internet connectivity during the examination, for example a hotspot router or ethernet cable. These devices must not be present in the candidate's room and must be declared prior to commencing the assessment.
- Take breaks during the examination. Invigilators will keep records of any breaks taken by candidates. No additional time will be added to the examination to compensate for breaks (unless agreed prior to the assessment as part of a reasonable adjustment request)
- Have drinks or snack on their desks.

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Violations

To prevent academic misconduct during online assessments, and to ensure that they are not interrupted by invigilators or the monitoring software, candidates are not permitted to:

- Look at a mobile phone, tablet, or any other device capable of communication or storing information. All such devices must be removed from the assessment environment prior to starting, and this must be confirmed with the invigilator during initial checks. Candidates can use mobile phones in the event of encountering technical difficulties during the examination.
- Wear any of the following items (this will be checked during the registration process):
    - earplugs or headphones
    - any clothing that can be used to hide materials, e.g., hooded jumper. Items worn for religious purposes are permitted and discretion will be exercised in conducting ID checks
    - Sunglasses (unless permitted for medical reasons) or smart glasses
    - Watches (including smart watches)
- Switch off their webcam or attempt to disable any feature of the assessment software
- Access other applications on their computer, including internet browsers
- Take screenshots of or copy examination content
- Talk to anyone outside the room or attempt to communicate with anyone else sitting the examination using phones or email
- Use multiple screens
- Use a calculator
- Have textbooks or notes in the examination environment (blank paper is permitted)
- Sit in a room that is too dark (your face must be clearly visible at all times)
- Angle their laptop or camera upwards or have their face obscured
- Vape or smoke

If invigilators identify any of the above behaviour, they will make a record of this, and it will be reported to the RCP Assessment Unit. Candidates will also be reported if they are seen to be looking away from their screens repeatedly or looking at their hands or wrists.

Candidates are reminded that in all RCP Assessment Unit assessments and examinations statistical methods are used to detect anomalous candidate behaviours which may be regarded as academic dishonesty. In the online version of examinations these will be supplemented by the detailed analysis of 'click streams' so that candidates' progress through the examination can be monitored and assessed and can be compared with video and other records of candidate behaviour.

8.4 Invigilation

Where an invigilator suspects a candidate or candidates of infringing the CGM KBA or DGM clinical examination regulations, they may speak to the candidate(s) involved, making clear what is causing concern, and reminding them of the relevant regulations and instructions.

Invigilators compile a written report of the examination for the RCP Assessment Unit, including any incidents of suspected misconduct.

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Invigilators are empowered to refuse to allow a candidate to continue with the examination on grounds of misconduct.

8.5 Paper-based assessments

To ensure that no candidate is disadvantaged in their examination by virtue of their disability or other special need it may be necessary to conduct the CGM KBA via a paper and pencil format. Where this is the case, this will be clearly communicated to the candidate(s) in good time ahead of the examination date.

The following apply to all paper-based assessments:

1. All the required stationery, including the pencil to complete marksheets, will be provided by the RCP Assessment Unit. Candidates must use only the stationery provided.

2. Pens, including highlighters, are not permitted unless they have been given prior approval as a reasonable adjustment. Any rough work must be completed on the CGM KBA question booklet.

3. Candidates must not bring to their desk any papers, bags, textbooks or documents, or items of any kind other than those specifically allowed for that assessment and previously notified to them.

4. The possession of calculators, mobile phones, pagers, personal stereos, smart watches or any other such devices that are audible, make calculations, store information or can be used for communication are strictly forbidden on or around candidates' desks. These items must be switched off and stored with candidates' belongings in the designated area at the examination venue. Where examination venues do not have secure areas to store personal items, any coats, bags or other item(s) brought into the examination venue should be stored as directed by the invigilator(s).

5. Any unauthorised items or material will be confiscated and a report detailing the incident and identifying the candidate will be submitted to the RCP Assessment Unit.

6. With prior approval (via submission of a request for reasonable adjustments), candidates may bring into the examination venue aids that will enable them to remedy a disability, e.g., of sight and/or hearing, or a medical condition, e.g., a glucometer for diabetes.

7. If a candidate has unwittingly brought any unauthorised item into the examination venue, this should be handed to the invigilator(s) before the examination starts or at the earliest possible opportunity thereafter.

8. Answer sheets are individually numbered (with candidate numbers) in the top right-hand corner. Candidates must sit at the desk where the answer sheet is marked with their candidate number.

9. Candidates must not start reading or answering the examination questions until the start of the examination is announced by the invigilator(s).

10. Candidates must comply with all instructions given to them by invigilator(s). Such instructions may include the instruction to leave the examination venue and not to return during the period of the examination.

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11. A candidate will be prevented from proceeding with the CGM KBA if it is the chief invigilator's view that they are too unwell to continue, or their conduct is likely to endanger the safety of, cause distress to or disrupt the work of other candidates.

12. It is the duty of a candidate to comply with an invigilator's instruction even if they judge the instruction to be unreasonable. There is the right of appeal if a candidate considers that the invigilator has not acted in accordance with these regulations.

13. While in the examination venue, a candidate must not attempt to read the work of any other candidate or communicate in any way with any other candidate or any other person without the express permission of the invigilator.

14. Candidates have a responsibility to help safeguard the security of the examination and their own work. Candidates should make efforts to ensure their work cannot be seen by another candidate, including when leaving the examination venue temporarily to visit the toilet.

15. Candidates have a duty to report to an invigilator or the RCP Assessment Unit any concerns they have that another candidate was attempting to read their work, or any other instances of possible misconduct they notice.

16. Candidates who wish to attract the attention of the invigilator(s) during the examination should do so by raising a hand.

17. Candidates should bring to the attention of the invigilator any factor (e.g., distracting noise) that is adversely affecting them during the examination. Where necessary they should communicate the same in writing to the RCP Assessment Unit immediately following the examination concerned.

18. Candidates must not leave the examination temporarily, during the period of the examination, unless given express permission by the invigilator(s) to do so. If such permission is given, they must be accompanied by an invigilator and must not attempt to contact any other person or consult any material relating to the examination while outside the examination venue.

19. Candidates may finish their examination at any point but are not permitted to return to the examination room once they have left. A candidate who leaves the room permanently will be considered to have finished the paper in question. Candidates wishing to end their examination early should clearly state this to an invigilator.

20. Candidates should immediately stop working and stop using pencils/erasers when instructed to do so by the invigilator and remain in their seats in silence while papers are collected.

21. Any candidate who is observed to be continuing work on their paper after the end of the examination has been announced will be reported.

22. Candidates must not remove from the examination venue any papers or examination materials. All Certificate in Geriatric Medicine Examination questions are confidential and are under the copyright of the Royal College of Physicians. The RCP reserves the right to initiate civil action and/or criminal prosecution if theft of intellectual property is suspected.

23. Question papers or any part of them, including individual questions, must not be copied or removed from the examination venue.

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24. Candidates must not communicate any question or part of a question to any other person or organisation. Candidates should inform the RCP Assessment Unit if they are asked to divulge examination content by any individual or organisation.

25. When authorised to do so by the invigilator(s), candidates should leave the examination venue in an orderly manner.

26. Candidates should note that if any information comes to light at a later stage that indicates that examination regulations have been breached, the RCP Assessment Unit reserves the right to invoke the misconduct procedures retrospectively.

9. Attending the DGM Clinical Examination

1. Candidates must not seek to gain prior knowledge of the clinical cases or scenarios used in the examination.

2. Candidates may not carry electronic devices, including telephones, pagers, 'smart' watches or other forms of communication devices, while in the examination.

3. Candidates wishing to use their own electronic stethoscope or magnifying ophthalmoscope must inform the RCP Assessment Unit of their intention during their application. Candidates who fail to declare their intention in this manner may be prevented from using the equipment.

4. All candidates should dress as they would to work in a UK hospital or other clinical setting, as described in the NHS guidance on uniforms and workwear. This includes being bare to the elbow with no watches, bracelets or rings (a single plain ring, such as a wedding ring, is acceptable, where this cannot otherwise be removed by a candidate).

   Candidates must come prepared to meet these criteria – failure to comply will mean that the candidate cannot sit the examination, and in these circumstances, they will not be eligible for a refund.

5. If any candidate anticipates difficulties in complying with the infection control procedures or dress requirements, they must provide details to the RCP Assessment Unit when submitting their application.

6. It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that they demonstrate the required skills within the time allowed. Time reminders will be given during each stage of the examination.

7. Clinical scenarios must not be copied or removed from the clinical examination centres.

8. All DGM examination clinical scenarios are confidential and are under the copyright of the RCP.

9. Candidates must not communicate any information about the cases in the examination, including any written instructions such as scenarios, to any other person or organisation.

10. A candidate will be prevented from proceeding with the DGM Clinical Examination if it is the examiners' view that they are too unwell to continue, or their conduct is likely to endanger the safety of patients, cause distress or disrupt other candidates.

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10. Circumstances affecting results

In the event of a procedural irregularity in the conduct of the examination, or exceptional circumstances that adversely affected a candidate's performance, candidates should inform the RCP Assessment Unit as soon as possible. This should ideally be during the examination itself, so a suitable remedy can be offered during the examination, where appropriate, and followed up after the examination by submitting an appeal via email. Details of the process and grounds for appeal can be found in the examination appeals regulations.

Candidates should note that exceptional circumstances that arise before an examination should be notified to the RCP Assessment Unit by email before the candidate commences their examination, and that the opportunity to withdraw is available should candidates feel their preparation for the examination has been adversely affected. Appeals will not be considered in relation to exceptional circumstances that arise before a candidate's examination.

11. Additional regulations and procedures

Details of other regulations for candidates are available on the CGM & DGM websites. These are as follows:

- Code of conduct for examination applicants and candidates
- Examination appeals regulations
- Examination complaints procedure
- Misconduct regulations
- Reasonable adjustment policy

12. Language requirements

All parts of the CGM and DGM are conducted in English.

As all assessments are conducted in English, the RCP advises that in order to be sufficiently prepared to sit the CGM and/or DGM, candidates' English language ability should be equivalent to International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Level 7.5. However, candidates do not need to have taken IELTS or any other language examination to sit the CGM or DGM.

The CGM and/or DGM cannot be used to demonstrate competence in the English language.

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