

University of Manchester Q-Step Summer Project 2016

Ref: #05 UoMQStep 2016 GMC Exam data

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Organisation Name: General Medical Council (GMC)

Team / Department: Education and Standards

Address: 350 Euston Rd, London NW1 3AX

Provisional title for project: Royal College Exam data review

100 word abstract of what the project would probably undertake, and any data to be used:

The GMC collect postgraduate exam data annually from the medical royal colleges and faculties. We provide benchmarked reports on pass rates.

The project will involve reviewing the exam data held by the GMC and providing recommendations for improving the data sharing project and further work:

1. Reporting on coverage and the values held in the various fields.
2. Calculate the score relative to the pass mark for each attempt for the exams with the available data.
3. Convert the score from step 2 to a Z-score based on the mean and standard deviation for the given exam diet.
4. Using two available data sources – the National Training Survey and the ARCP return establish the most reliable method for calculating each trainee's Deanery/LETB and specialty at the time the exam was taken using scripted rules.

5. Derive a variable that reports on the method applied to obtain the values in step 4
6. Documenting the data (so that we can update the data dictionary accordingly).
7. Check the data held against the data sharing agreements we hold with the colleges.

Key words (up to 12):

Medical education, selection, data linkage, data quality, aptitude Tests, educational measurement

Essential and desirable skills that the student would need to have:

Essential:

An organised and methodical approach to work.
Ability to document to a high standard

Desirable:

Able to use Excel including formulae and functions
SPSS – including use of the syntax file to run scripts
Some database experience – e.g. MS-SQL

Where the work would be carried out: London

Preferred selection method (interview or other meeting): Interview

Support and training offered by the organisation: A full induction will be offered and an analyst will be available to direct work.

Exposure and coaching on SPSS and Tableau

Any issues of data confidentiality and/or IPR that would need to be resolved: Candidates will need to complete our data protection training and the UKMED data protection training.

Supporting information: UKMED website <http://www.ukmed.ac.uk/> – in particular the data dictionary.

Financial assistance offered by the organisation: None