Nursing & Midwifery Council

Information for people affected by the Yunnik test centre issue

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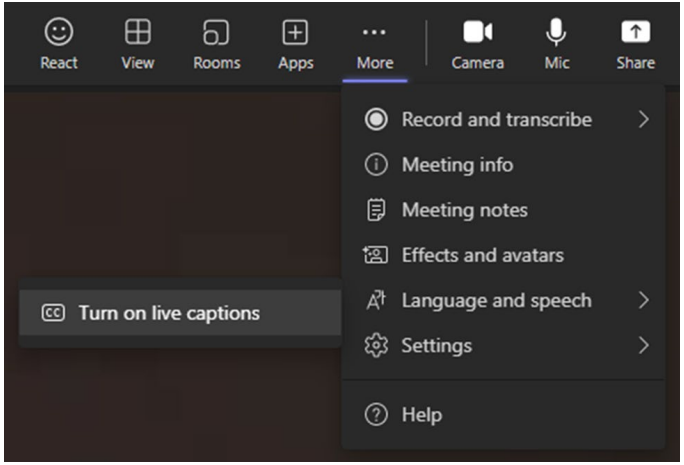


Housekeeping

- Everyone except presenters are automatically muted and cameras are turned off
- The “raise your hand” and chat features will not be used today
- We will be recording the session and will share with you afterwards

- To use live captions, go to your meeting controls at the top of the screen and select More ••• > Language and speech > Turn on live captions

- You can change the language of the captions by selecting ⚙Settings > Spoken language > choose the language you’d like



Questions

We will not be answering any questions during the session

If you have a question:

- Use the “Q&A” tab to submit a question at any time
- Audio-only participants can email questions to ***info@thenncauk.org*** - please send all questions to this email by **end of day on Monday 5 February**
- We will then compile the questions we receive and answer them in writing after the session

Any specific questions about your regulatory case should be sent to your case officer



What happened?

We were **alerted to unusual data** at the Yunnik test centre and began an investigation

We contacted everyone in **May 2023** to let them know **there was an issue**

Our **investigation found widespread fraud** at the Yunnik test centre

We contacted everyone in **September 2023** about the **outcome of our investigation**

Everyone is given the opportunity to **resit their CBT**

News › News and updates › Statement regarding computer-based test (CBT)

Statement regarding computer-based test (CBT)

04.05.23

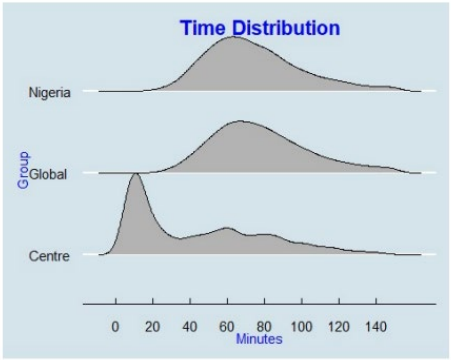
News › News and updates
› The action we're taking following concerns about the Yunnik test centre

The action we're taking following concerns about the Yunnik test centre

20.09.23

What did we find?

- Test times at the Yunnik centre were significantly quicker than any other test centres in Nigeria and globally
- No evidence of computer error, system error, or cyber attack
- Test data indicates one or more proxy testers were operating at the Yunnik centre



This graph shows the time distributions to complete a CBT in all of Nigeria, across the globe and at the Yunnik test centre

'Proxy testers'

- 'Proxy testers' - someone that takes a test on behalf of someone else, or provides answers to those taking the test
- During our investigations we have not received any new information which changes our view that 'proxy testers' were operating at the Yunnik test centre

What did we decide?

- Because there is evidence of widespread fraudulent activity at the Yunnik test centre, we cannot have confidence in any CBT result obtained there - therefore, **all CBTs obtained at Yunnik are invalid**

- There are some individuals whose probability of achieving a pass within the time it took them to take the CBT is extremely low (1/2500), the Registrar considered that these individuals are more likely than not to have acted fraudulently

- As we have invalidated all tests from Yunnik, we have offered all individuals who took their CBT at the Yunnik test centre the opportunity to resit the test free of charge – everyone is allowed three attempts

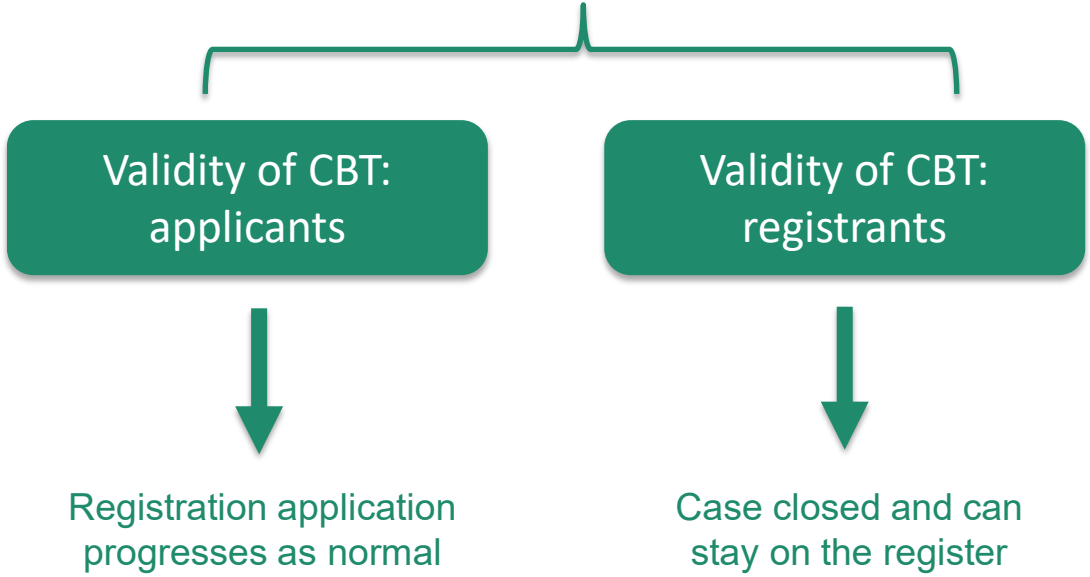
People impacted

This table shows the number of individuals affected by the Yunnik test centre issue

Status	Concerns about fraud	Validity of CBT only	Total
Applicants	669	771	1,440
Registrants	48	467	515
Grand Total	**717**	**1,238**	**1,955**

After a new CBT has been passed

There is a lack of evidence at this stage to suggest that these individuals obtained their results fraudulently



Where are we now?

- 1,345 of the 1,955 individuals who took their test at Yunnik centre have booked or taken retests

- 199 applicants, who are not considered to have obtained their CBT fraudulently, have completed their application and have been given their PIN

- 392 registrants, who are not considered to have gained their CBT fraudulently, have had their cases closed with no further action



After a new CBT has been passed

Based on the evidence at this stage, these individuals were more likely than not to have obtained their results fraudulently

Concerns about fraud: applicants

Assistant Registrar will make a decision to allow registration or not

Concerns about fraud: registrants

Investigating Committee hearing to decide if should remain on register or not

Where are we now?

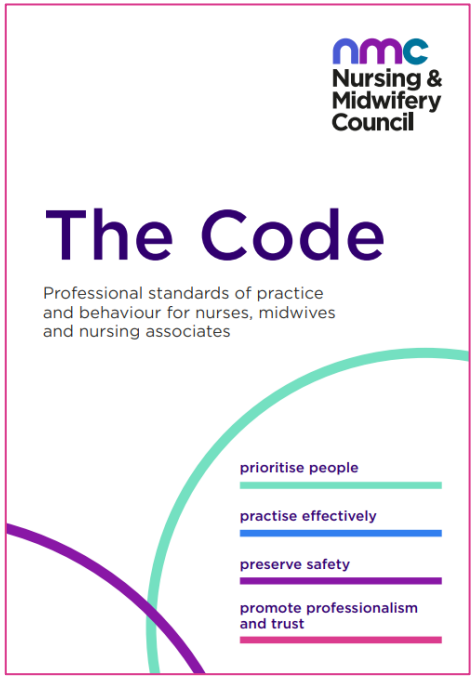
- Assistant Registrars have made 80 decisions about applications from those who we consider to have gained their test fraudulently

- We have written to registrants we consider to have gained their test fraudulently referring them to a Panel known as the Investigating Committee

- We are working with individuals and their representatives to schedule hearings



Act within The Code



Uphold the reputation of your profession at all times

20.2 act with honesty and integrity at all times

Professionals on our register, and people applying to join our register, should be guided by the standards in The Code

Scan the QR Code for our good health and character guidance

Support for you

- We would encourage you to seek advice from representatives, such as a trade unions or legal professionals

- Your representative will be able to explain the process to you, answer any questions you may have and will support you to understand the requirements of the Code and our Health and Character guidance

- If you have a UK based employer, they should also be supporting you through this process



Nursing & Midwifery Council

Applicants: we consider more likely than not obtained their CBT fraudulently

Assistant Registrar decisions

1. If we have concerns about a fraudulent CBT

2. An applicant will still need to resit the CBT and complete their registration application

3. Once complete, the application will be referred to an Assistant Registrar to decide whether to allow the applicant onto the register

4. The Assistant Registrar will **refuse** the application if they have concerns that an applicant does not meet our character requirements

The Assistant Registrar will **accept** the application if they decide the applicant meets our character requirements

Refused application

- If the Assistant Registrar has refused your application to join the register, you will receive a decision letter stating the reasons for the refusal
- If you wish to challenge the decision you have two options, to lodge an appeal or make a new application
- Your decision letter will provide guidance on how to appeal and include an appeal application template (proforma)
- If you decide to appeal, your application will be reviewed by an independent panel known as the Registration Appeals Panel

Scan the QR Code
to find out more about the registration appeals process

Registration appeals: process

1. Once the Assistant Registrar has made a decision on your application, you'll usually receive your decision letter within five days
2. From the date you receive the decision letter you have 28 days to appeal the decision, you do this by submitting a notice of appeal
3. Once you've submitted a valid notice of appeal, we'll acknowledge it within five working days
4. We'll then let you know who your case officer is and give you more information about the appeals process
5. Appeals will either need to go to a hearing (we aim to schedule hearings within 3-6 months), **OR** the appeal may be resolved before a hearing takes place

Registration appeals: outcomes

Allow the appeal

- You have successfully won your appeal, and can move on to the next stage of registration

Dismiss the appeal

- The hearing panel have agreed with the decision of the Assistant Registrar to refuse your application to join or re-join the register

Adjourn the appeal

- There are many different reasons why an adjournment might be required - the most common reasons are that the hearing ran out of time, or new information came to light

Reapplication

- You may decide that you do not wish to appeal the decision - in this case you can reapply to join the register

- If you reapply to the register and give us the same information from your first application, you will receive the same decision

- If you reapply to the register, the usual application fees will apply



Reapplication

To **reapply to the register**, you'll need to follow the same application process as before

However, it's important to note that…

To start a new application, you'll need confirm that you will **not** be submitting an appeal

Once you have confirmed you are **not submitting an appeal**, you should be able to start a new application within 48 hours

New applications will be considered by an **Assistant Registrar**

Scan the QR Code to find our step-by-step guide for applying to the register

Reapplication: useful information

- ✓ You'll need to use the same Personal Reference Number (PRN) from your previous application in the new application
- ✓ If you want to use your current Test of Competence (ToC), you'll need to apply for the same application type
- ✓ If you want to apply for a different application type, then you'd need to take a new ToC
- ✓ You can use your existing police clearance in a new application, providing it's still valid
- ✓ You can use your existing English language certificate in a new application, providing it's still valid
- X If your English language certificate is not valid, you will need to submit evidence to us that you know enough English to practise safely and effectively – you may be able to rely on other evidence types

Scan the QR Code for our English language requirements guidance

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Registrants: we consider more likely than not obtained their CBT fraudulently

Referral to the Investigating Committee

- All registrants have received a notice of referral to the investigation committee
- Individuals have 28 days to respond to the charges and provide information to help with scheduling a hearing
- A hearing will be scheduled, and the case will then progress to a Panel of the Investigating Committee
- The Panel will consider the charge and make a decision about whether to allow the individual to remain on the register or remove them from the register
- The registrant will have the option to appeal against the Investigating Committee's decision

Other useful information

What we've said to employers

Nursing & Midwifery Council

Kept them up to date with progress

Informed them if an employee has been affected by this issue



Expected them to support people to resit the CBT

Asked them to take no action against individuals while this issue is ongoing



Asked them to be proactive and take any further steps to eradicate unfair, racist or discriminatory behaviour



Provided resources to answer their questions so they can support you through this process

Learning from this incident

Nursing & Midwifery Council

Pearson VUE

- Acknowledged issues at the Yunnik test centre
- Improved deterrents to fraudulent activity, such as data monitoring

NMC

- Continue to work with Pearson VUE to understand this issue
- Made updates to all our candidate support material

What happens now?

- We hope some of this information has been helpful to you and will support you to progress through your regulatory case – the recording of this webinar will be available shortly for you to rewatch

- We will take away the questions from the Q&A/via email and come back to everyone in writing

- If you have specific questions about your regulatory case, please get into contact with your case officer



Thank you for joining

nmc Nursing & Midwifery Council