

15 June 2021

New Test of Competence 2021 Webinar:

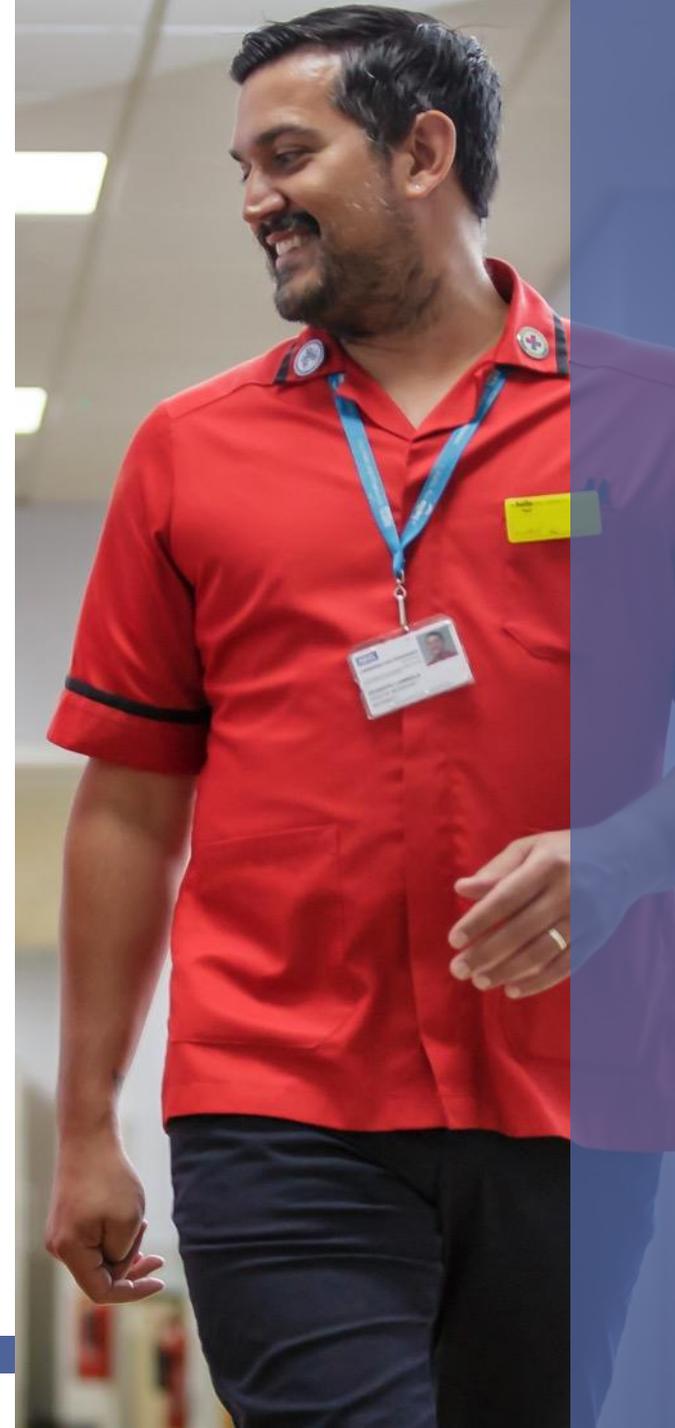
Overview of the transitional arrangements and test booking process

NMC Nursing & Midwifery Council



Housekeeping

- Everyone, except the presenters, are automatically muted
- The “raise your hand” feature will not be used today
- Use the “?” feature or speech bubble to submit any questions or comments at any time
- Audio-only participants can email questions and comments to ToC@nmc-uk.org
- We may not be able to address individual points but everything is being noted for consideration
- You can download the slides using the resource function
- The session will be recorded
- There will be dedicated time for questions



Today's agenda

| Timings | Item |
|----------|---|
| 10:00 am | Welcome, introduction to the team and objectives for the session Jack Bland, Head of Testing Services, NMC |
| 10:05 am | Overview of the transitional arrangements Suzanne McCormack, Senior Contracts Officer, NMC |
| 10:15 am | Example transition scenarios Suzanne McCormack, Senior Contracts Officer, NMC |
| 10:25 am | Update on the test booking process Sonja Froehling, Test of Competence, Contract and Quality Manager, NMC |
| 10:40 am | Q&A session Jack Bland, Head of Testing Services, NMC Sonja Froehling, Test of Competence, Contract and Quality Manager, NMC Suzanne McCormack, Senior Contracts Officer, NMC Rhea Walsh, Programme Manager, Pearson Vue |
| 11:00 am | Next steps and closing Jack Bland, Head of Testing Services, NMC |

Objectives for today's session

Transition

1. To have an understanding of the transitional arrangements and know what the duration of the transition period will be

2. To be able to identify which candidates will be sitting the legacy test and which candidates will be sitting the future test once the new ToC goes live

3. To know where to find further guidance about the transitional arrangements

Test booking process

4. To update stakeholders on the changes to the CBT booking process in the lead up to the launch of the new ToC

5. To provide some key dates in relation to the CBT booking process

6. To give stakeholders the opportunity to clarify any questions they might have about the process

Overview of the transitional arrangements



Why will there be a transitional arrangement?

- We recognise this will be a significant change for candidates and employers
- We want to be fair to candidates currently going through the registration process
- Giving employers and candidates adequate time to prepare for the test applicable to them
- Setting an end date for the transition period so eventually all candidates sitting the Test of Competence will be tested against our current standards



What will the transitional arrangements be when the new ToC is launched?

The transitional arrangements will apply to candidates making an application for registration via the overseas registration route (those required to sit the ToC) and to those based in the UK who choose to do the ToC as part of their return to practice

Candidates who have started an application prior to the go live date in August 2021

- Candidates who've not sat any attempt for both the CBT **and** the OSCE prior to the go live date will be taking the **future ToC**
- Candidates who've sat an attempt at either the CBT and/or the OSCE before the go live date will have until August 2022 to complete the **current ToC**. This may be earlier depending on when the candidate has passed a part of the ToC

Candidates who will be starting an application from the go live date in August 2021

- These candidates will be taking the **future ToC**



What will the transitional arrangements be when the new ToC is launched cont.?

Important to note:

- The transitional arrangements are **based on whether a candidate has sat** any part of the ToC prior to the go live date in August 2021
- This is not based on a candidate's eligibility date or the date in which they made their booking to sit the CBT and/or OSCE

Nursing associates:

- Candidates applying to join the register as a nursing associate (NA) will not be affected by these changes
- Those making an NA application will continue to sit the current NA ToC after the go live date in August 2021



For the candidates who fall in the transitional group

Eligibility date remains unchanged

CBT and OSCE must be passed within two years of one another

Candidates will continue to have three attempts at each exam, 10 days between attempts

Candidates won't be allowed to mix and match the current ToC with the future ToC

Once the transition period ends, if candidates haven't been successful in completing the current ToC they will be required to sit the new ToC

Candidates will be responsible for ensuring they book the right ToC (current or future) with our test providers

**Examples of how
this might apply
to you**



Candidate 1 - Joanna

Candidates who've started an application and who've sat an attempt at the current CBT and/or OSCE prior to the go live date in August 2021



- Joanna started her application in March 2021 and received confirmation from NMC that she is eligible to sit the ToC
- Joanna sat and passed the CBT in June 2021
- Joanna will be taking her first attempt OSCE in September 2021

Which test will Joanna be sitting once the new ToC goes live in August 2021?



| CBT | OSCE |
|---|--------------|
| N/A (Current CBT already sat and passed in June) | Current test |

As Joanna had sat one part of the current ToC prior to August 2021, she will be allowed to sit and pass the current OSCE until August 2022.

Important to note

Even if Joanna had failed the CBT in this example, she would still be allowed to re-sit the current CBT and sit the current OSCE after the new ToC goes live in August 2021 as she had sat one part of the current exam prior to the new test going live.

Candidate 2 - Dessie

Candidates who've started an application prior to the go live date in August 2021, but who haven't sat any attempt at the current CBT or OSCE before this time



- Dessie started her application in May 2021 and later received confirmation from NMC that she is eligible to sit the ToC
- Dessie is planning to sit her first CBT attempt in September 2021 and is planning to sit her first OSCE attempt after she's passed the CBT

Which test will Dessie be sitting once the new ToC goes live in August 2021?



| CBT | OSCE |
|-------------|-------------|
| Future test | Future test |

Although Dessie started her application before the go live date in August 2021, as she hadn't attempted either part of the ToC prior to the test going live she will be required to sit the future CBT and OSCE.

Important to note

This is regardless of when candidates have booked the exam, e.g. booking a test in June 2021 for a delivery date in September 2021, and also when candidates had become eligible to sit the exam. To continue sitting the current ToC, applicants must've attempted at least one part of the current test prior to the go live date in August 2021.

Candidate 3 - Brett

Candidates who'll be starting an application on or after the go live date in August 2021



- Brett will be starting his application for registration in September 2021
- Once Brett has received confirmation from NMC that he is eligible to sit the ToC, he will book his CBT and OSCE in the following weeks

Which test will Brett be sitting once the new ToC goes live in August 2021?



| CBT | OSCE |
|-------------|-------------|
| Future Test | Future test |

As Brett will be starting his application after the go live date in August 2021, he will be sitting the future test for both the CBT and OSCE

**Candidates who
started their
application prior to 7
October 2019 and who
are applying for
registration via the old
overseas registration
route**



Candidate 4 - Trishna

Candidates who started their application prior to 7 October 2019 and who are applying for registration via the old overseas registration route



- Trishna started her application in August 2019
- Trishna sat and passed the CBT at the beginning of October 2019
- After receiving her decision letter from NMC, Trishna sat and failed her first OSCE attempt in February 2020
- Due to unforeseen circumstances, Trishna has returned home and is undecided when she will return to sit the OSCE

Which test will Trishna be sitting once the new ToC goes live in August 2021?



| CBT | OSCE |
|---|---|
| N/A (Current CBT already sat and passed in October 2019) | Current test (If exam is passed by October 2021) |

As Trishna has already sat part of the current ToC (in this example both the CBT and OSCE) and she is in receipt of a decision letter, she will be allowed to re-sit the current OSCE two more times (three attempts in total)

Important to note

As Trishna passed the current CBT in October 2019, she will have until October 2021 to pass the current OSCE.

The CBT and OSCE must be taken within two years of one another and therefore she will have until October 2021 to successfully complete the ToC as opposed to having the full 12 months (up to August 2022)

CBT extensions

We're automatically extending the validity of CBT results due to expire between 1 March and 31 August 2021 by six months as a result of the pandemic



Changes to the CBT booking process



Changes to the CBT booking process

We're making some small changes to the CBT booking process to accommodate the new two part test.

New CBT fees

- Part A and Part B (examination fee £83)
- Part A: Numeracy only (examination fee £50)
- Part B: Clinical only (examination fee £70)

You'll need to select the correct CBT

- You'll no longer receive an ATT email (Authorisation to Test), an email from Pearson VUE notifying you of an account creation, along with a temporary password will be emailed instead.
- When logging in, you will no longer see a 'pre-approved exam' but instead will need to click on 'view exams' and select the correct CBT exam that corresponds with your application type

Changes to the CBT booking process

How to book Part A: Numeracy and Part B: Clinical

- **First sitting:** When you book your first CBT you'll need to select both modules (Part A and Part B), the system will not allow you to proceed otherwise (final examination fee will be £83)
- If a resit is required, you must choose the correct module(s) next time you book. All part(s) you previously failed must be booked for the next attempt (the system will not allow you to rebook passed exams or only one module at a time if you have failed both)
- Same resit rules apply: each sitting counts as an attempt, you have a maximum of 3 permitted attempts per application

Changes to the CBT booking process

How to check your results for Part A and Part B

- You can check your exam results in two places:
 - 1) the exam report provided directly after the exam
 - 2) In 'Exam History' on Pearson VUE's account (click on relevant exam entry to see a further break down of results for Part A and B)
- NMC online will continue to only show the overall exam result for each attempt:
 - 1) For example, if you have passed Part A but failed Part B on your first attempt, the overall CBT result on NMC online will show 'Fail'
 - 2) Once both Part A and B have been passed, NMC online will be updated to show 'Pass'

Key dates for the CBT booking process

4 June

Candidates can no longer book an exam date for the current CBT after 1 August 2021

This doesn't affect nursing associate applications; only nursing and midwifery applications

18 July

Test booking will close for the current CBT

After this date candidates won't be able to book the current CBT when logging into their Pearson Vue account

19 July

Test booking will open for the new CBT

Candidates will be able to select a delivery date from August 2021 onwards

Key dates for the CBT booking process cont.

Important points to note

- For any candidate needing to book the current CBT after registration has closed on 18 July, the ToC Team will be manually authorising these candidates on a case by case basis. This includes any candidate who falls into the transition pool.
- Once registration for the future CBT opens on 19 July, if you're a candidate in the transition pool, it's important you don't book your exam via your Pearson Vue account as the exams available to book will be for the future CBT.
- Please contact us via TOC@nmc-uk.org and we will arrange this for you

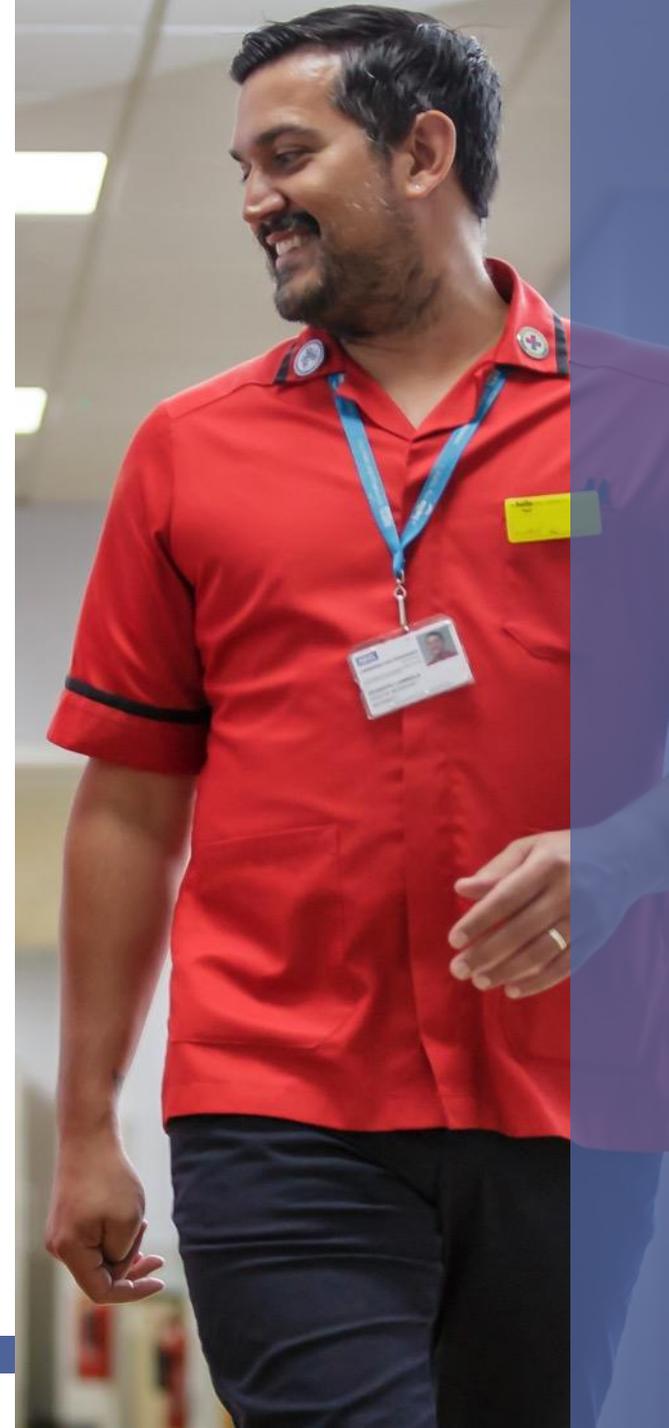
Where to find more guidance

For more information about the new ToC, the transitional arrangements, and to access the recordings and slides from previous webinar sessions, please visit our dedicated ToC 2021 webpage via the link below:

<https://www.nmc.org.uk/registration/joining-the-register/toc/toc-review/>

For more information about the changes we're making to the validity periods for language and CBT for overseas candidates, please review the Coronavirus (Covid-19) page on our website:

<https://www.nmc.org.uk/news/coronavirus/test-of-competence/>



Question and Answer Session



Thank you

