

Progress Test Guide

Aegrotat and compassionate considerations

All applications for aegrotats and compassionate consideration will be dealt with using standard University processes applying to all [written tests](#).

The following table summarises the possible situations that may apply to you if you miss a Progress Test.

Student situation	Grade recorded
Student didn't sit/no authorisation or application	Student awarded an Unsatisfactory grade for missed test.
Student didn't sit/application for consideration declined	Student awarded an Unsatisfactory grade for the missed test.
Student didn't sit/application for consideration approved	Student receives no grade for the current test, but will carry forward the most recent aggregate grade. A student who misses the first summative test for any reason will be awarded an aggregate Doubtful grade.
Student sat test/application for consideration not approved	Grade achieved in test is awarded.
Student sat test/application for consideration approved	Student will carry forward the most recent aggregate grade or the grade achieved on test, whichever is to the student's greater advantage.
Student misses two or more consecutive tests (with or without approved consideration).	Student awarded a Doubtful aggregate grade.

Special circumstances: Out-of-time/ Out-of-centre

Applications for sitting Progress Tests Out-of-Time or Out-of-Centre will be considered on an individual basis in keeping with the Programme's leave policy.

Cheating

If a student is suspected of cheating during a progress test the Student Academic Conduct Statute will be applied.

If a student is found to have cheated a penalty will be applied, and the offence entered in the academic misconduct register. The Fitness to Practise process may also be invoked.

Operation and supervision of progress tests

Progress tests will be run according to the University of Auckland Examinations policies, processes and guidelines, except that there will be no reading time for the tests. At the start of each test 10 minutes is set aside for administration and a standard briefing.

Students who fail the year

For those students who fail and are required to repeat a year, the aggregate grade from their last year of satisfactory progress test achievement will be carried forward to the repeated year.

Guidelines to approaching a Progress Test

The format

- Refer to Instructions on the front cover of the test.
- Each test paper is individually identified. This is to ensure all test papers are returned and accounted for, including the colour copy sheets with photos, diagrams and similar.
- Each question starts with a clinical scenario or patient case, and there are six choices on the Scantron sheet for your answer:
 - 5 choices relate to applied knowledge potential answers
 - The 6th choice is to answer as "Don't know" (the question mark on the Scantron sheet).

The standard

The test is set at the level of knowledge required of a new graduate at beginning of the PGY1 year. Please interpret the results with this in mind. Students should compare their result with others at their stage of medical educational development and training.

All questions focus on applied medical knowledge and require integration of knowledge and clinical reasoning.

Condition for sitting Progress Tests

The test is administered under standard University of Auckland rules:

- Students may not enter your progress test later than halfway through.
- Students may not leave the room until 15 minutes after the midway point of the examination writing time, and then only with the supervisor's permission and upon handing in their Scantron sheet and progress test paper.
- Students may not leave the progress test room in the last 15 minutes.

Marking and the progress test

- Choose ONE option only. If you choose two answers your answer will be marked as wrong.
- You gain 1 mark for each question answered correctly.

- You gain 0 marks for a 'don't know' choice, and you are encouraged to acknowledge what you don't know.
- Not answering a question is equivalent to 'don't know' and you will gain 0 marks.
- Negative marking is used and 0.25 of a mark is deducted for a wrong answer.
- Make sure you use a soft pencil (4B is good) and fill the circle completely for your chosen option.

Strategy for tests with negative marking

- Remember that if your answer is correct, you gain a mark, if you choose 'Don't know' you get no mark, if your answer is wrong, you lose 0.25 of a mark.
- Make sure that you finish the paper and do not spend too much time on items you find difficult or complex.
- It is useful to apply the 'cover-up' test first i.e. hide all answers, read the scenario, identify the likely answer and then read to see if it is there (you then don't waste time reading all five choices).
- If you have no idea of the right answer your best strategy is to answer 'don't know'.
- If you can eliminate more than one of the options as being clearly incorrect, it is to your advantage to make an informed choice amongst the remaining options.

Results and feedback

Following the progress test, you can access via the [MBChB portal](#):

- a mark for the test, and a grade of excellent, satisfactory, borderline or unsatisfactory, which is based on the results for your cohort of students;
- a table that shows what questions you answered correctly (green), incorrectly (red) or didn't know (amber);
- the key learning point for all questions.

Probity message to all those sitting the test

We wish to advise you of the following points:

1. No question will be used again for at least a period of three years.
2. Each clinical scenario may have a number of different questions associated with it, and each with a different learning point.

3. Neither students nor any immediate and future colleagues will benefit from trying to remember questions and 'save/ circulate' them after the test is completed.
4. Severe consequences through the University of Auckland Academic Misconduct policy and/ or the FtP policy will be implemented for anyone who either removes a progress test from the examination room or who tries to remember, share and pass a question onto others.