

# Reading list: Interview skills and preparation for consultant, GP and SAS doctors

Date of webinar: 25 September 2023

**Prepared by**

Laura Russell

(Evidence support information specialist, BMA library and archive, Corporate & Member Development)

[evidence.support@bma.org.uk](mailto:evidence.support@bma.org.uk)

## Contents

1	Description .....	3
2	Obtaining full text articles .....	4
3	Results .....	5
3.1	e-Books .....	5
3.2	Web links .....	7
3.3	Google Scholar .....	8
3.4	Journal articles .....	9

## 1 Description

- This tailored reading list includes signposted web links, links to e-Books held by the BMA library, and journal articles on the topic of Interview skills and preparation for consultant, GP and SAS doctors as a supplement to the Learning and Development webinar you attended on 25 September 2023.
- The selected content is representative of the current literature on this topic, inclusion on this list does not imply endorsement from the BMA.
- If you would like to request a literature search on any aspect of this topic please fill out a [request form](#) (this service is available to BMA Members only).
- This reading list prioritises online content to ensure all attendees can benefit from this supporting resource. However most full text links will be accessible to BMA Members only. Find out more about [the benefits of BMA Membership](#) and [join here](#).
- The BMA Library prioritises an e-first approach, however if you are near BMA House in London, we have a modern, purpose-built library space where members are welcome to come and study. Find out more and see how we can help you [here](#).

## 2 Obtaining full text articles

### 2.1.1.1 Full text links

If available, the full text link has been included.

### 2.1.1.2 Search for Journals

The BMA Library provides access to thousands of e-journals for all BMA members. Use our [journal search](#) or [search by citation](#) options on the library website.

### 2.1.1.3 Article Requests

Members can use our article request service to request digital copies of articles that are not available in our library collections. We will try to obtain these copies from other libraries in the UK on your behalf for a fee: £5.10 (+VAT) for the first ten article requests; £13 (+VAT) for all subsequent requests. To request digital copies of articles, use the [order an article form](#) on the library website (you must be signed in).

### 2.1.1.4 E-Books

We provide free, direct access to thousands of e-books for BMA members.

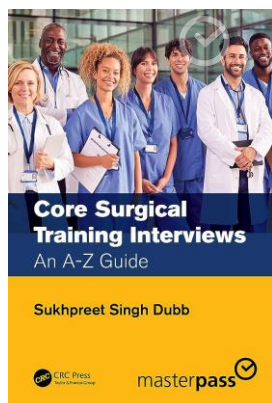
### 2.1.1.5 Further help

For any further help with getting full text articles, please contact the BMA Library Team ([bma-library@bma.org.uk](mailto:bma-library@bma.org.uk))

## 3 Results

### Results

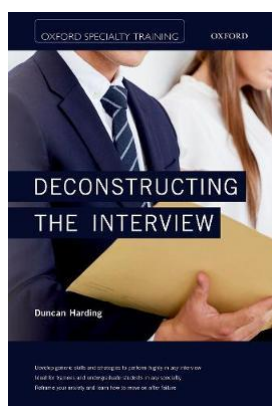
#### 3.1 e-Books



Dubb, Sukhpreet Singh. **Core Surgical Training Interviews: An A-Z Guide**. United States: CRC Press, 2020.

Available online [here](#)

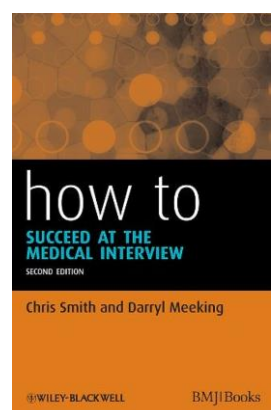
Each year the competition ratio for UK Core Surgical Training jobs is high. For every 3.3 applicants, only one will be successfully appointed to a CST post. This revision guide maximises the chances of interview success. by providing comprehensive application and interview advice.



Harding, Duncan. **Deconstructing the Interview**. First edition. United Kingdom: Oxford University Press, 2018.

Available online [here](#)

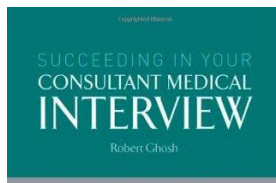
This book takes a fresh approach to passing interviews, by examining the processes which underline successful interview performances.



Smith, Chris, and Darryl Meeking. **How to Succeed at the Medical Interview**. 2nd ed. Vol. 42. New York: Wiley, 2013.

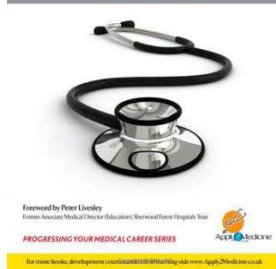
Available online [here](#)

Each year the competition ratio for UK Core Surgical Training jobs is high.. For every 3.3 applicants, only one will be successfully appointed to a CST post. This revision guide maximises the chances of interview success. by providing comprehensive application and interview advice



Ghosh, Robert. **Succeeding in Your Consultant Medical Interview: A Comprehensive Guide to Interview Question Topics and NHS Issues.** London: BPP Learning Media Ltd, 2012.

Available online [here](#)



Achieving consultant status remains the ambition and pinnacle of achievement in the eyes of most hospital doctors. The stakes are high, the competition is intense and the selection process is discerning. It is important, therefore, that the interview process is understood, and that the commonly asked questions and pitfalls are examined in order to prepare meticulously. Despite the importance of this interview, it is probable that most doctors do not invest sufficient time and effort preparing for it.



Jay, Ros. **Brilliant Interview: What Employers Want to Hear and How to Say It.** 3rd ed. Harlow, England: Prentice Hall/Pearson, 2011. Print.

Available online [here](#)

Congratulations- you've got the interview. Now how will you get the job? Brilliant Interview will equip you with all the insights and practice you need to be the most successful interviewee around. Most people will have to do a job interview at some point in their lives. Interviews can be nerve-racking and it's really easy to make mistakes. However, your performance can have a huge impact on your career so it's vital that you get your interview technique right.

---

## 3.2 Web links



### **ISC Medical**

Consultant Interviews can be very competitive and you will face pressures that you have not encountered before. On this page, you will find useful information for your preparation.

**Available online [here](#)**



### **NHS Health Careers**

A consultant interview is unlike any interview that you will have experienced during training. This video has been produced to look at the interview process and offer best practice advice from three experienced consultants.

**Available online [here](#)**



### **The British Association of Urological Surgeons**

Unfortunately getting an Emergency Medicine consultant job is not quite as easy as just nailing an interview. In reality, the preparation starts way earlier so really this blog should be called, 'how to get the consultant job of your dreams'.

**Available online [here](#)**



### Life in the Fast Lane

in a tight labour market, with scarce specialist fraction, job-seekers need to learn how to put themselves on show, using performance tricks that transform an interview from okay to excellent. Because, when you apply for a consultant role, you need to do more than pass – you need to win the medal!

Available online [here](#)



Health Education England

### Health Education England (HEE)

These career-planning resources include tools, exercises, booklets and films targeted to registrars who wish to gain information and general guidance on applying for consultancy posts. Access these resources to support you in deciding on which posts to apply for, and then preparing yourself for a successful interview.

Available online [here](#)

## 3.3 Google Scholar



intitle:(*"interview skill" OR "interview preparation" OR "preparing for interview"*)  
(*consultant OR "general practitioner" OR "Specialty and Associate Specialist" OR SAS*) around(2) (*doctor OR clinician*) -*"patient interview" -consultation -medline -embase*

Click link to see [Google Scholar results](#)

BMA members can follow the instructions set out in [this library blog post](#) to directly access the full text of any of the Google Scholar articles that the BMA library has a subscription to (you only need to follow these instructions once).

*\*Please note that as Google Scholar results are ordered by relevance, the first few pages of results will be the most useful.*



---

### 3.4 Journal articles

1. Oxtoby, K. (2019).

**"Tips for succeeding at consultant interview."**

*BMJ* 366: l5028.

A consultant post can represent the pinnacle that doctors have been striving for throughout their training. But they must attend a challenging interview to achieve that goal.

[Click here to access this article](#)

2. Rimmer, A. (2018).

**"How should I prepare for a consultant interview?"**

*BMJ* 362: k3258.

Consultant interviews can be daunting, but preparation is the key to success.

[Click here to access this article](#)

3. Oxtoby, K. (2017).

**"Common consultant interview questions and how to answer them."**

*BMJ* 356: j455.

Becoming a consultant is a pivotal point in a doctor's career. After years of study and training, there is still a major hurdle to overcome—the consultant interview. Kathy Oxtoby looks at what it takes to succeed.

[Click here to access this article](#)

4. Grewal, P. (2015).

**"Great answers to tricky consultant interview questions."**

*BMJ* 350: h2803.

Perbinder Grewal provides a guide to answering some of the tough questions candidates may face in interviews for consultant posts.

[Click here to access this article](#)

---