



# Complete MRCGP

## RCA/CSA revision course

From the Authors of  
**The Complete CSA Casebook**  
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In collaboration with RCA Examiners

September 2021 Bulletin

High yield open questions transferable to most patients

In this month's bulletin we discuss how the doctor's phrasing of questions can impact on efficient and effective data gathering.

Many trainees ask us how they can speed up their data gathering. The new 12-minute assessment time for each RCA case may help, though those extra 2 minutes may be better used for clinical management. Common pitfalls that impact on time include:

- Asking long questions - See below for suggested concise open questions
- Repeatedly repeating the patient - Instead repeat occasional single words to explore cues
- Multiple questions - One at a time please
- A messy structure - Your medical history should now be at RCGP level

You need to be flexible, watch out for those cues and be ready to be reactive.

However, revisit your structure, write it down, and consider what you need to include to demonstrate RCGP competence across the three marking domains.

Here we provide some concise questions that are all "open" in style to yield lots of information for Data Gathering. They are transferable to many consultations, even the tricky ones!

The structure of your data gathering could be ...

The problem	How did it start? (Instead of <i>when</i> )
The person/social	Tell me about yourself: Work? Home? Who are you close to? Have there been any changes or challenges in your life recently?
The mental impact	What thoughts have you had about what could be going on? Anything else that's been on your mind? Or worried you? How has this affected you? I'll be making lots of suggestions, but was there anything you particularly hoped I would do today?
The specifics	Closed questions for symptom differentials and red flags
Using the notes	I'm now looking at your records and can see your last tests showed ..., medicines ... etc

Found this helpful? Trainees across the UK are spending a day with us on Zoom.

### Complete MRCGP - RCA Courses delivered by the Authors, RCA Examiners & Educators

2.5 hours	<b>Interactive Webinar</b>	Everything you need to know about the RCA.
2 hour	<b>Case session</b>	Small groups of 4. Simulated cases (RCA Examiner approved) designed for the RCA. The focus of the session is HOW to demonstrate skills (within the RCA marking scheme) in your future cases.
1 hour	<b>Case discussion</b>	Case selection & HOW to demonstrate consultation complexity skills.
1 hour	<b>Ask the RCA Examiner</b>	Case discussion (our recorded consultations), the mandatory cases required for RCA submission and your opportunity to ask questions.

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2021  
Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Book at [Completeca.co.uk](http://Completeca.co.uk)