

INTERVIEW SUCCESS: MULTIPLE MINI-INTERVIEW (MMI)

What is a Multiple Mini-Interview? The Multiple Mini-Interview was developed in Canada at McMaster University and has been widely used at Canadian and Australian professional schools. Over the past few years, it has been gaining traction in the United States, predominantly at medical and dental schools. At a MMI Interview, students rotate through six to ten scenarios and have a set amount of time to prepare and then deliver a response. Typically, the MMI lasts two hours. Candidates are rated on their responses with particular attention to non-tangible skills: compassion, communication, empathy, integrity, critical thinking, ability to think under pressure.

TIPS FOR MMI SUCCESS

Practice Questions and Time

While you will not know the scenarios, it is important to practice lengthy responses in your interview preparation. Pay particular attention to ethical or decision-based questions. Wear a watch and get used to the amount of time that you will have for each question. View each scenario as an opportunity to share a short presentation. Content of the response is just as important as being time-conscious.

Research Current Events

It is important that you have a grasp of current research and current events within the field of medicine. There will almost always be a question related to current issues in the field. Having a grasp of the issues will allow you to be more educated and feel more comfortable sharing content. It is not expected that you are an expert, but that you have a general understanding of issues within the field that you intend to go into.

Connect Examples to Skills

Every question has the opportunity for you to connect your response to your experience. Interviewers will get to know you better through the examples you share and how you discuss your experiences. Consider challenging events, patient experiences, particularly difficult life events that you have overcome, and practice sharing those stories. Focus on providing a concrete answer to the scenario while also sharing more about who you are as a student and future professional. There is always an opportunity to share more about yourself and providing examples is key to an interviewer getting to know you. Share your experiences, personality, values, philosophy, and note that every question is the opportunity for you to allow others to get to know you.

POSSIBLE SCENARIOS

PROMPT 1: (Read and consider for 2 minutes, 6 minute response):

A close friend in your 1st-year medical school class tells you that his mother was recently diagnosed with breast cancer. He feels overwhelmed by his studies and is considering dropping out of medical school to spend more time with his mother. How do you counsel your friend?

PROMPT 2: (Read and consider for 2 minutes, 6 minute response):

“Liberation Therapy” (LT), a vascular operation developed to potentially cure multiple sclerosis (MS) in certain patients, has recently come under very serious criticism – delaying its widespread use. Among other experimental flaws, critics cite a small sample size in the original evidence used to support LT. As a healthcare policy maker, your job is to weigh the pros and cons in approving novel drugs and therapies. Please discuss the issues you would consider during an approval process for LT.

Scenarios taken from: <http://multipleminiinterview.com/mmi-questions/>