



Risr Assess Question Bank

Overview



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risr/platform

The risr/platform is a cloud hosted service, made up of 3 key components all of which can be utilised as a full-suite of integrated service modules or as standalone service modules.

- risr/apply (Exam and Event booking & registrations)
- risr/assess (End-to-end exam management & delivery)
- risr/advance (Workplace based assessments, ePortfolio & CPD/PCS)

risr/apply is our Memberships, Exams and Events Booking module that compliments the life-long learning journey of a trainee/student through Examination, Workplace Based Assessment, CPD and Revalidation. risr/apply has been designed and delivered, as many of our services are, in collaboration with our customers. risr/apply enables the publishing, online booking and payment of subscriptions, memberships, exams, courses and events and is integrated directly with risr/advance and risr/assess to automate the whole process. The system enables automation of eligibility rules and a single view for both Administrators and Trainees/Students in their progression.

risr/assess is our end-to-end exam management solution. risr/assess delivers a number of question types including MCQ, SAQ, SBA, MEQ & EMQ Papers (Online Electronic and/or Paper delivery). risr/assess is currently being used by the most advanced medical assessment and training organisations around the world. The “out of the box” functionality covers question/item bank, exam preparation, design and delivery, exam processing, analysing and reporting. risr/assess is highly flexible, allowing both online or paper based assessments to be delivered. Finally, risr/assess unrivalled OSCE, SOE, Oral, MMI and project online remote video delivery capability means that customers are able to deliver all exam types from a single exam management solution and are future-proofed with our integrated platform.

risr/advance is our cloud hosted ePortfolio management solution for preparing, delivering and processing online Workplace Based Assessments and CPD/PCS. risr/advance is a key component of our integrated cloud hosted eAssessment services Platform.

risr/advance is integrated into the eAssessment platform to deliver a seamless and high quality user experience. risr/advance is currently being used by some of the most advanced Medical Assessment and Training organisations in the world and is continuously developed (as

with all 3 components of our platform) alongside our customers to ensure our services stay relevant and constantly innovate. risr/advance will enable customers complete flexibility in configuring Workplace Based Assessments, fully automated workflow, mobile/offline working, standard blueprinting, in-built notifications and event creation.

Risr Assess Question Bank

The Risr Assess solution includes a comprehensive OSCE and Written question bank that has been used by education and training organisations for many years. The system allows for multiple assessment types to be created, managed, delivered and analysed – with independent sub banks for each. This can be done in both a collaborative or segregated fashion, with custom permissions and restrictions able to be configured by organisation administrative staff.

Question authors can access the system remotely, and depending on the role and permissions they are assigned, they can edit question content, including all sections, as well as add new questions. Items can be templated on the system, and an unlimited number of these can be created. OSCE stations can include candidate instructions, SP instructions, Examiner instructions, mark sheets (with weightings, tagging and schemas applied), grade description documents, equipment and prop lists, technician documents and all other station resources (images, documents etc). Items can also be copied as templates to be used as new questions/stations.

Many question types are supported on the system. These include:

Single Best Answer questions, OSCE, Oral and MMI Stations, Essay Questions, Short Answer Questions, Very Short Answer questions, Extended Matching questions (EMQ), Ranking questions, Hotspot questions, Prescribing VSA questions, and Multi-part Written Questions among others. We also have a track record of working with organisations to implement new question types as needed.

All exam content is version controlled, with only one Live/Approved version of the item able to be active at any one time. Custom statuses can be defined for the approval of an item– by default these are Draft, Pending, Approved or Archived, however these can be changed as needed. Each item has an audit trail, and the transition between statuses is recorded, with the user and date/time.

For OSCEs, Vivas, Interviews and other observed assessments, examiner mark sheets can be created on the system. Each marksheet is made up of multiple observation criteria (questions). It is possible to add multiple headings within the marksheet to organise observation criteria (e.g. History observations/Communication observations/Feedback/Borderline marker etc). Each observation criterion (question) can be of differing types, including discrete options (select from list of responses), boolean (yes/no), free text, labels and sound recordings. Discrete observation criteria (questions) can have multiple different marking schemes assigned, with a varying number of options. These can show letter options, descriptors or numerical marks to examiners. Weightings can be applied to questions within the marksheet.

Multimedia can be easily included as part of Written questions and observed stations. This includes images (jpeg, png, tiff and others), video (mp4, mov), audio (mp3, aac, wav) and documents (pdf). In addition, specialised formats such as radiographic DICOM Images can be included in exams. All images are presented in original quality, ensuring that high quality images can be used in exams.

Questions and stations are strictly version controlled on the system. Only approved/live items can be used in an exam, and only one approved/live version of an item can have that status at any one time. Once an item is set to being approved/live, it is not editable, and is locked from changes being made to it. If changes do need to be made, this can be done by creating a new draft version, and going through the approval process. This is in addition to previous versions, which are retained with archived status. Items can also be manually archived, individually or in bulk. Question performance statistics are tied to the version of the item delivered in a given exam.

The Risr Assess platform has comprehensive blueprinting and metadata tagging functionality. This includes Multi-level hierarchical tagging, where several levels of information can be documented; Multi-dimensional tagging enabling the representation of complex frameworks, and preventing implicit tags; Dependent tagging, supporting sub-dimensions to be shown only in relevant cases; and Automated tagging, where users belong to a particular role. This allows the question bank to be searched, reviewed and filtered extremely efficiently. Complex filters can be created by users, ensuring that existing content can be leveraged to develop exams, in addition to new content.

The system also tracks and stores historical exam performance data, so that performance statistics such as facility, discrimination and point biserial are calculated. Additionally information such as cut scores, standard setting judgements and alpha if excluded is also calculated. This information can be exported if desired.

Risr Assess includes AI-assisted item generation to accelerate the creation of high-quality draft questions from customer-provided source materials such as curriculum documents, lecture slides, textbooks, or learning resources. The capability is designed as a controlled human-in-the-loop workflow, ensuring academic oversight remains central throughout. Generated items are produced as editable drafts within the question bank, allowing authors to refine content, align it to organisational conventions, and validate educational relevance before approval. Outputs can include rationales for answer options to support review, and generation can be guided using templates and instruction documents that specify style, complexity, blueprint alignment, and other rules. The process operates securely within the customer's environment, with generated items stored only within the customer's private bank, supported by a full audit trail and consistent data protection obligations.

Collaboration and governance within the question bank is supported through configurable roles and permissions, allowing organisations to separate authoring, reviewing, approving, and administrative responsibilities. Users can be granted access at programme or sub-bank level,

enabling both collaborative authoring across teams and segregated working where needed. Content moves through configurable lifecycle statuses, providing a controlled workflow for drafting, review, approval, and archiving, with full traceability of who changed what and when through user-attributed audit trails.

To help content progress smoothly through review, the platform supports structured workflow management for question development, including the ability to route items through defined approval stages and maintain visibility of an item's current status. This supports operational governance by ensuring items cannot be used until approved, and by making it clear which content requires action by reviewers or approvers. Where organisations require additional oversight, workflow stages can be aligned to internal committees or sign-off points, supporting defensible content assurance.

Bulk operations and interoperability are supported to reduce manual effort and improve data quality. Question and metadata uploads can be completed using templates, with mapping options and validation checks to highlight missing fields or incorrect formats before content is added to the bank. Export options allow organisations to extract question bank content and metadata for offline review in XSLX and Word formats, allowing governance reporting, or further downstream processing. JSON-based exchange is available for structured integration or migration use cases, supported by RESTful APIs and documented endpoints where required.

Security controls for the question bank extend beyond permissions to include encryption in transit and at rest, plus comprehensive logging of access and change activity. Access to sensitive functions such as bulk export, item approvals, or administrative configuration can be restricted to specific roles. Audit trails provide evidence of content lifecycle decisions, including approvals, edits, and status changes, supporting compliance and internal assurance requirements.

Question reuse and exposure management is supported through item versioning, usage history, and rules that help organisations avoid overuse of content. Items can be retired through archiving, and constraints can be applied during test assembly to exclude recently used questions, enforce blueprint balance, and avoid inappropriate combinations. Because performance statistics are tied to the delivered version of an item, organisations can make evidence-based decisions about whether content should be revised, retained, or withdrawn.

Accessibility and usability considerations apply to the authoring and administration experience as well as downstream use. Standards-based interface design supports keyboard navigation and compatibility with assistive technologies, helping a broad range of users contribute to item writing, review, and governance workflows. Where organisations have specific accessibility tooling or device requirements, compatibility checks and guidance can be provided to support inclusive use of the question bank.

The Assess platform can automatically select questions/stations for an item set based on the Exam Blueprint and other filters. Users can create an Exam Blueprint, which sets out the proportion of content they would like to include for each tag/category (based on the sampling

grid). They can define this based on either the number of marks, or the number of stations in the assessment. Minimum and maximum proportions can be set, ensuring that content correctly reflects the exam requirements.

Question papers can be regenerated multiple times if required, and rules can be configured to exclude recently used items (e.g. no questions that have been used in the last year). It is possible to filter and exclude questions based on their performance data. This includes facility and discrimination. It is also possible to reflect 'enemy' item status, such that certain items cannot appear on the same Item Set together. It is possible to report against the Exam Blueprint, to validate how the automatically generated question paper conforms to the exam requirements. These item sets can be reviewed and manually edited by users before they are finalised.

Item Sets can also be constructed manually, by selecting the items from the bank that you would like to include. The item bank can be searched and filtered based on tagging and free-text, and multiple items can be selected. It is possible to report against the Exam Blueprint, to track how the manual construction conforms to the Exam Blueprint.