Applicant perception is an important consideration of test development, as perception may influence test performance [1], and drive decreased subsequent applicant interest in accepting offers of placement from programs using tests perceived as unfair [2]. While most researchers have examined applicant perception only after applicants have completed the test, far fewer have directly compared pre-test and post-test perceptions, largely because such a comparison would be practicable only for newly developed tests, about which applicants would have no prior knowledge. Given the importance of the political validity of assessments, researchers require a better understanding of changing applicant perceptions following new test implementation.

A survey was sent out to applicants a few days prior to taking the CASPer test. In the survey, we asked 5 questions regarding their perceptions about the CASPer test on a 7-point Likert scale:
1. CASPer is fair to all students
2. CASPer will allow me to demonstrate my strengths
3. I will enjoy participating in CASPer
4. CASPer will be stressful for me
5. I believe CASPer is an effective tool for evaluating one’s aptitudes (non-academic) for the medical profession.

Test-takers were also asked how many hours they expected to study on a 7-point scale. Another survey was sent to applicants once they completed CASPer, including the same 5 items with minor adjustments to apply to the past (e.g., “I enjoyed participating in CASPer”). Test-takers participated in both the pre- and post-test survey.

Differences in applicant perceptions were generally small but statistically significant, with applicant perceptions about CASPer becoming more positive once applicants completed the test. These salutary results may not be true for all new tests; regardless, they reflect the importance of encouraging applicant awareness of new test formats, prior to their inauguration.

### References

### Conclusion
Differences in applicant perceptions were generally small but statistically significant, with applicant perceptions about CASPer becoming more positive once applicants completed the test. These salutary results may not be true for all new tests, regardless, they reflect the importance of encouraging applicant awareness of new test formats, prior to their inauguration.

### Aim
To examine possible differences in applicant perceptions pre- and post-test for an online Situational Judgement Test (SJT), CASPer®