

SITTING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF TABLE!

As medical trainees, we navigate countless examinations throughout our careers. I still remember my MD clinical examination vividly — a demanding long case and two short cases that carried immense weight. Like many trainees, I often wondered during those stressful moments: Wouldn't it be nice to one day sit on the other side of the table?

Two decades later, serving as an Overseas MRCPCH Clinical Examiner has given me a very different perspective. Clinical examinations today are far more structured, objective, and thoughtfully designed to ensure fairness through multidimensional assessment.

Yet, despite these advances, one aspect remains unchanged — the experience is still understandably stressful for candidates.

What continues to make the role meaningful, however, is the opportunity to work alongside exceptional colleagues who are deeply committed to maintaining high standards while creating a supportive and purposeful examination environment.

And perhaps the quiet privilege of being an examiner? Sitting through the same examination process — without the anxiety of awaiting the final result!

Dr Sathiya Jayapal
Consultant Pediatrician