



SAUDI BOARD RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM

CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY

Final Written Examination

Examination Format:

A Saudi board final specialty written examination shall consist of two papers each with 100-125 Single Best Answer MCQs. Up to 10% unscored items can be added for pretesting purposes.

Passing Score:

The passing score is 70%. However, if the percentage of candidates passing the examination before final approval is less than 70%, the passing score must be lowered by one mark at a time aiming at achieving 70% passing rate or 65% passing score whichever comes first. Under no circumstances can the passing score be reduced below 65%.





Suggested References:

1. Clinical Biochemistry: Metabolic and Clinical Aspects. Marshall, W.J. & Bangert, S.K., Elsevier Science Health Science Div.
2. Clinical Chemistry, Marshall, W.J., Elsevier Science Health Science Div. Tietz Textbook of Clinical Chemistry, Burtis, C.A. & Ashwood, E.R., WB Saunders.
3. Tietz Fundamentals of Clinical Chemistry, Burtis C.A., E.R. Ashwood, D.E. Bruns and N.W. Tietz, WB Saunders.
4. ACB Venture Publications, Various, ACB Venture Publications Guide to Diagnostic Clinical.
5. A Guide to Diagnostic Clinical Biochemistry, Walmsley R. N. and White G. H. Clinical Chemistry, Blackwell Scientific Clinical Chemistry.
6. Clinical Chemistry: Theory, Analysis, Correlation, Kaplan L.A. , Pesce A.J. , and Kazmierczak S.C., Mosby.
7. Clinical Chemistry in Diagnosis and Treatment, Day A., Mayne P. and Mayne P.D., Hodder Arnold.
8. Clinical Biochemistry: An Illustrated Colour Text, Stewart M.J., Shepherd J., Gaw A., Murphy M.J., Cowan R.A. and O'Reilly D. J., Churchill Livingstone.
9. Laboratory guide to the methods in biochemical genetics, Blau, N., Duran, M., & Gibson, K.
10. Laboratory quality management system: handbook - World Health Organization

Note:

This list is intended for use as a study aid only. SCFHS does not intend the list to imply endorsement of these specific references, nor are the exam questions necessarily taken solely from these sources.





Blueprint Outlines:

No.	Sections	Percentage
1	General Clinical Biochemistry	27%
2	Endocrinology /Special Biochemistry	25%
3	Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (TDM) & Toxicology	10%
3	Metabolic Chemistry & Newborn screening	10%
5	Molecular Biochemistry	5%
6	Point of care testing (POCT)	10%
7	Research and Statistics	13%
Total		100%

Note:

- Blueprint distributions of the examination may differ up to +/- 5% in each category.
- Percentages and content are subject to change at any time. See the SCFHS website for the most up-to-date information.





Example Questions

EXAMPLE OF K1 QUESTIONS

Question 1

Specimens collection tubes for plasma glucose analysis usually contain sodium fluoride.

What is the function of sodium fluoride in these tubes?

- A. Inhibits glycolysis
- B. Precipitates proteins
- C. Serves as a coenzyme of hexokinase
- D. Prevents reactivity of non-glucose reducing substances

EXAMPLE OF K2

Question 2

A 2-year-old child presents to the clinic. He is overweight and he has coarse features. He is described as being somewhat dwarfed. He has a history of decreased serum thyroxine (T4).

Which of the following is the most informative additional blood test?

- A. Cholesterol
- B. Triiodothyronine (T3)
- C. Thyroid Binding Globulin (TBG)
- D. Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH)

