



SAUDI BOARD RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM

MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGY

Final Examination

Written Examination:

Exam Format:

A Saudi board final specialty written examination shall consist of two papers each with 100-125 single best answer Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs). Up to 10% unscored MSQs can be added for calibration 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:

- Manual of Clinical Microbiology, 10th Edition. James Versalovic.
- Medical Microbiology, 8th Edition. Patrick Murray.
- Bailey & Scott's Diagnostic Microbiology, 13th Edition. Betty Forbes.
- Microbiology with Diseases by Body System, 4th Edition. Robert Bauman.
- Diagnostic Medical Parasitology, 5th Edition. Lynne S Garcia

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.





Final Written Exam Blueprint Outlines:

No.	Sections	Percentage
1	Lab Safety, Sterilization, Disinfection and Microscopy	8%
2	Quality Control, Handling of Specimens and Further Processing	8%
3	Culture Methods, Antimicrobial Investigations and Lab Ethics	8%
4	Clinical Bacteriology and Systematic Bacteriology- part-1,2	7%
5	Clinical Bacteriology and Systematic Bacteriology- part-3,4	10%
6	Clinical Bacteriology and Systematic Bacteriology- part-5	7%
7	Mol. and Emerging Technologies and Mycology	10%
8	Clinical Parasitology and Clinical Immunology	9%
9	Virology and Environmental Microbiology	7%
10	Infection Control	10%
11	Managerial Skills	8%
12	QC and Accreditation and Data handling	8%
Total		100%

Notes:

- Blueprint distributions of the examination may differ up to +/-5% in each section.
- Percentages and content are subject to change at any time. See the SCFHS website for the most up-to-date information.
- Research, Ethics, Professionalism, and Patient Safety are incorporated within various domains.
- Results will be published within 14 business days following the last date of your examination





Clinical Examination:

Exam Format:

- Medical Microbiology final board practical examination (OSPE) shall consist of microbiological lab benches spots, slides, and specimens for 3 days.

Station Information:

- The 8 stations consist of 8 Objective Structured Practical Exam (OSPE) with 10 -60 minutes encounter.
- All stations shall be designed to assess integrated practical encounters.
- Sections may overlap, and more than one category can be evaluated within a station.

Time Management:

- The examiner is aware of how much material needs to be covered per station, and it is their responsibility to manage the time accordingly.
- The examiner will want to give you every opportunity to address all the questions within the station.
- They may indicate that "in the interest of time, you will need to move to the next question." This type of comment has no bearing on your performance. It is simply an effort to ensure that you complete the station. If you are unclear about something during the station, ask the examiner to clarify.
- Some stations may finish early – if this occurs, the examiner will end the encounter.





Examiners Professionalism:

- The examiners have been instructed to interact with you professionally – don't be put off if they are not as warm and friendly towards you as usual.
- We recognize this is a stressful situation, and the examiner is aware that you are nervous. If you need a moment to collect your thoughts before responding, indicate this to the examiner.
- The nomination of examiners is based on the principle that candidates are assessed by qualified examiners selected and appointed by SCFHS. The examiner is not obligated by any means to share their personal information or professional details with the candidate.

Conflicts:

- The examiners come from across the country. You will likely recognize some of them and may have worked with some of them in your center's clinical/academic capacity. This is completely acceptable to the SCFHS and is not a conflict unless you or the examiner perceive it as such (i.e., if the examiner had a substantial contribution to your training or evaluation, or if you have another personal relationship with the examiner).
- Identify the conflict at the moment of introduction; examiners have been instructed to do the same. Examiners will alert the SCFHS staff – every attempt will be made to find a suitable replacement for the station.

Confidentiality:

- Electronic devices are NOT permitted.
- Communication with other candidates during the evaluation is prohibited.





Final Clinical Exam Blueprint Outlines:

The clinical examination is designed to address four or more of the following:	
No.	Sections
1	Clinical Bacteriology
2	Clinical Virology
3	Clinical Parasitology
4	Clinical Immunology
5	Clinical Mycology
6	Molecular and Emerging Technologies
7	Safety and Infection Control
8	Antimicrobial-susceptibility Reporting
9	Microbiology Lab Quality Management
10	Microbiology Lab Managerial Skills

Notes:

- The content is subject to change at any time. See the SCFHS website for the most up-to-date information.
- Results will be published within 14 business days following the last date of your examination

