



SAUDI FELLOWSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

Skull-base Surgery

Promotion Examination

Written Examination Format:

- A written examination shall consist of one paper with not less than 8 SAQ (Short Answer Questions). The exam duration is 180 minutes. Up to 10% of unscored items can be added for pretesting purposes.
- The examination shall contain type K2 questions (interpretation, analysis, reasoning, and decision-making) and type K1 questions (recall and comprehension).
- The examination shall include basic concepts and clinical topics relevant to the specialty.
- Clinical presentation questions include history, clinical findings, and patient approach. Diagnosis and investigation questions; include the possible diagnosis and diagnostic methods. Management questions; including treatment and clinical management, either therapeutic or nontherapeutic, and complications of management. Materials and Instruments questions; including material properties, usage, and selection of instruments and equipment used. Health maintenance questions; include health promotion, disease prevention, risk factors assessment, and prognosis.



Passing Score:

The trainee's performance is assessed in each of the evaluation formulas according to the following scoring system:

Score	Less than 50%	50% – 59.4%	60% - 69.4%	More than 70%
Description	Clear Fail	Borderline Fail	Borderline Pass	Clear Pass

1. To upgrade the trainee from a training level to the next level, she/he must obtain at least a **Borderline Pass** in each evaluation form.
2. The program director may recommend to the local supervision committee to request the promotion of the trainee who did not meet the previous promotion requirement according to the following:
 - A. In case that the trainee gets a **Borderline Fail** result in one of the evaluation forms, the remaining evaluation forms must be passed with **Clear Pass** in at least one of them.
 - B. In case that the trainee gets a **Borderline Fail** result in two of the evaluation forms to a maximum, provided they do not fall under the same theme (Knowledge, Attitude, Skills). The remaining evaluation forms must be passed with **Clear Pass** in at least two of them.
 - C. The promotion must be approved in this case by the scientific council for the specialization.



Blueprint Outlines:

No.	Section	Percentage
1	Anterior skull-base pathology	12%
2	Sellar skull-base pathology	10%
3	Middle fossa skull-base pathology	10%
4	Posterior fossa pathology	20%
5	Cranio-cervical junction pathology	10%
6	Sphenoid bone pathology	10%
7	Adjuvant therapy	18%
8	Surgical complications	10%
Total		100%

Notes:

- 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.
- Research, Ethics, Professionalism, and Patient Safety are incorporated within various domains.





Suggested References:

- Atlas of Skull Base Surgery and Neurotology, Robert K. Jackler.
- Rhoton's Cranial Anatomy and Surgical Approaches by Albert L. Rhoton Jr.
- Youmans and Winn Neurological Surgery, 8th Edition, H. Richard Winn.

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.

