



SAUDI BOARD FINAL CLINICAL EXAMINATION

Pathology





General Information

Exam Format

-The final clinical examination will be conducted in two days as follow:

DAY 1:

- **6 Structured Oral Exam (SOE)**, each with **(10)** minute encounters.
 - Candidates will review virtual slides associated with these cases (10 minutes per case immediately period to SOE)
 - A brief history for each case (including age, sex and site) will be provided
 - Candidates are encouraged to take notes and to think about possible questions that may be asked
 - A diagnosis for these cases may not necessarily be made by looking at the provided slides alone
 - Some cases may require the candidate to obtain additional history or clinical information that is not initially provided
 - Other cases may require the candidate to order or interpret ancillary studies
 - Topics such as history, clinical information and other diagnostic tests, including ancillary studies, may form the basis for supplementary questioning by examiners
 - In addition, candidates' knowledge and clinical competency in communication, collaboration, patient safety, Laboratory management and professionalism is usually assessed in this portion of the examination.

-You will encounter 1-2 examiners in each station.

DAY 2:

1. **Short cases** (spot diagnosis) exam: 30 cases (histopathology virtual slides)
 - Duration: 75 minutes
 - Candidates will be asked to state the most specific diagnosis for each case
 - Candidate will write single diagnosis for each case
 - For each case, the patient's age and sex will be provided
 - The site from which the tissue was taken will also be provided when required or useful to make the diagnosis
 - Other pertinent history may be provided in select cases
2. **Computer-based exam:** 20 images
 - Duration: 50 minutes
 - Displayed in a PowerPoint slide presentation and Image Scope viewing software
 - Consist of flow cytometry, molecular studies, ancillary studies, autopsy/forensic cases and gross pathology.
3. **Cytology cases:** 5 cases
 - Duration: 25 minutes
 - Displayed in a slide and/or Image Scope viewing software
 - Consist of gynecologic, non-gynecologic and FNA cases

Conduct of Evaluation

Station Information

- All stations shall be designed to assess integrated clinical/practical encounters.
- Domains and sections may overlap, and more than one category can be evaluated within a station.
- Each station may address one or more cases or scenarios.
- SOE stations are designed with preset questions and ideal answers.
- A scoring rubric for post-encounter questions is also set in advance (if applicable).





<p>Time Management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -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 interests 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.
<p>Examiner Professionalism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -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.
<p>Conflicts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -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.
<p>Confidentiality</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Electronic devices are NOT permitted. -Communication with other candidates during the evaluation is prohibited.





Examination Content

Sections

The examination will cover **some** of the following sections:

1.	Surgical Pathology (including frozen section)
2.	Cytopathology
3.	Quality and Safety
4.	Special Stains and Immunohistochemistry
5.	Molecular and Cytogenetics studies and electron microscopy
6.	General Pathology
7.	Autopsy and Forensic Pathology

General Information

Results

Results will be published within 14 business days following the last date of your examination.





Definition of Clinical/Practical Skill Domains

Domain	Definition
Data-Gathering Skills	Defined as: the candidates' ability to obtain and identify important information, correlate the clinical data to recommend appropriate testing. It includes interviewing and history taking.
Reasoning and Analytical Skills	Defined as: the candidates' ability to rationalize recommended effective management plans, evaluate alternative plans, recognize indicators to different appropriate treatments based on relevant, correct clinical data interpretation.
Decision-Making Skills	Defined as: the candidates' ability to formulate a logical diagnosis, identify immediate needs, and make accurate inferences regarding the expected outcomes. It includes recognizing potential complications, risks, and benefits.
Professional Attitude	Defined as the commitment to deliver the highest standards of ethical and professional behavior in all aspects of health practice. Attitudes, knowledge, and skills based on clinical &/or medical administrative competence, ethics, societal, & legal duties resulting in the wise application of behaviors that demonstrate a commitment to excellence, respect, integrity, accountability & altruism (e.g. self-awareness, reflection, life-long learning, scholarly habits, & physician health for sustainable practice).



Note: -

The content is subject to change at any time. See the SCFHS website for the most up-to-date information.

