



SAUDI DIPLOMA TRAINING PROGRAM

CLINICAL INVESTIGATOR

Promotion Written Examination

Written Examination Format:

- A written examination shall consist of one paper with not less than 100 MCQs with a single best answer (one correct answer out of four options). Up to 10% 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 finding 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%
Descriptio	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 Clinician Investigator Program.



Blueprint Outlines:

No	Section	Percentage
1	Principles of Clinical Research and Translational Science	15%
2	Study Design and Research Methodology	20%
3	Biostatistics and Data Analysis	15%
4	Research Ethics, Governance, and Regulatory Affairs	10%
5	Clinical Trials and Interventional Research	10%
6	Epidemiology and Outcomes Research	10%
7	Knowledge Translation, Implementation Science, and Health Systems Research	10%
8	Scientific Communication, Grant Writing, and Research Leadership	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:

1. Hulley SB, Cummings SR, Browner WS, Grady DG, Newman TB.
Designing Clinical Research. 5th Edition. Wolters Kluwer, 2019.
2. Friedman LM, Furberg CD, DeMets DL, Reboussin DM, Granger CB.
Fundamentals of Clinical Trials. 5th Edition. Springer, 2015.
3. **Gordis L.**
Gordis Epidemiology. 6th Edition. Elsevier, 2019.
4. Dawson B, Trapp RG.
Basic & Clinical Biostatistics. 5th Edition. McGraw-Hill Education, 2014.
5. Rothman KJ, Greenland S, Lash TL.
Modern Epidemiology. 4th Edition. Wolters Kluwer, 2021.
6. Emanuel EJ, Grady C, Crouch RA, Lie RK, Miller FG, Wendler D.
The Oxford Textbook of Clinical Research Ethics. Oxford University Press, 2008.
7. ICH Harmonised Guideline.
Integrated Addendum to ICH E6(R2): Guideline for Good Clinical Practice.

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.

