ONCOLOGY NURSING DIPLOMA PROGRAM

Final Written Examination

Objectives:

- Determine the quantity and quality of specialty knowledge-base is ranked as competent, so that the individual can be used as a referral source for the oncology nursing specialty.
- Using theoretical data, determine the candidate's ability to think logically, to solve problems, to apply basic medical science to clinical problems, and to make judgments with valid comparisons.

Eligibility:

- Successful completion of the first nine months of the second year of the diploma program
- Obtaining a satisfactory FITER report by the local supervisory committee and/or the nursing scientific board.
- Registering for the examination at least 1 month before the exam date

Rules:

- The examination is held once a year; the date and time are determined by the Saudi Commission.
- There shall be no re-sit exam.
- A candidate would remain eligible for diploma final exam for a period not longer than three years, provided they could prove they had been clinically active, after which a renewal of exam eligibility require scientific council approval.
- If the candidate did not pass within the three years, an exceptional tempt may be granted upon the approval of the scientific councils, provided evidence of continuing clinical practice is presented.
- A candidate who fails to pass the diploma final written exam including the exceptional attempt has to repeat the final year of training, after which he/she is allowed to sit the final written examination twice after approval by the scientific council.
- After exhausting all the above attempts, the candidate will not permitted to sit the diploma final written examination.
Examination Format:

- The final exam is two papers written test each consist of 100-120 multiple-choice questions (MCQs) with single best answers. The majority of these questions shall consist of clinical scenarios.
- For each question, the candidate must choose from four possible answers (A, B, C, or D).
- The clinical presentation questions cover nursing assessment, diagnosis, intervention, and evaluation. The management questions include non-therapeutic and therapeutic treatments, patient safety, the safe administration of medication, and complications. The health maintenance questions cover health promotion, disease prevention, risk factor assessment, and prognosis.
- The examination content covers topics relevant to oncology nursing as well as pathophysiology, research, evidence-based practice, professionalism, and ethics (see the blueprint below).

Examination Duration:

The exam duration is 3 hours for each paper and will be delivered as a computer based test when available, otherwise paper and pencil.

Passing Score:

The passing score is 70%. However, if the percentage of candidates passing the examination is less than 70%, the passing score can be lowered by one mark at a time aiming at achieving 70% passing rate or 65% passing score whatever comes first. Under no circumstances can the passing score be reduced below 65%. Negative marking is NOT allowed.

Declaration of Result:

The Nursing Examination Committee shall approve the examination result before its announcement.

Exemption:

SCFHS at present has no reciprocal arrangement with respect to this examination or qualification by any other college or board, in any specialty.

Suggested References:


### The Advanced Practice Clinical Nursing Diploma In Oncology
#### Final Written Exam Blueprint

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Symptoms Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oncologic Emergencies</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research and Evidence-Based Practice</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<td>End of Life Care</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<td>Healthcare Informatics</td>
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<td>Leadership and Management</td>
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<td>Professional Performance</td>
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<td>Epidemiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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Example Questions

1. An early symptom of prostate cancer is:
   a) Urinary hesitancy
   b) Acute urinary retention
   c) Intermittent bone pain
   d) Sensory dysfunction in the lower extremities

2. Clinical symptoms of metastatic lung cancer can include:
   a) Diarrhea
   b) Weight gain
   c) Constipation
   d) A hoarse voice

3. Nursing for a patient with a Spinal Cord Compression (SCC) would typically include all of the following except:
   a) Monitoring the patient’s neurological status
   b) Administering antipyretics as prescribed
   c) Instituting preventive skin care measures
   d) Avoiding overmedication, which could distort pain assessment

4. Nursing care for patients experiencing Superior Vena Cava Syndrome is directed at which of the following?
   a) Monitoring sensory and motor function, and maintaining adequate elimination patterns
   b) Maintaining stable blood pressure, managing edema of legs, promoting venous return from legs.
   c) Maintaining a patent airway, promoting venous return from legs, and lowering the patient’s anxiety
   d) Maintaining a patent airway and stable blood pressure, promoting venous drainage from the head, neck, and upper extremities, and lowering the patient’s anxiety