

## FAMILY MEDICINE DIPLOMA PROGRAM

### Saudi Diploma Final Written Examination of Family Medicine 2017

#### Objectives:

- Determine the quantity and quality of specialty knowledge base ranked as competent, so that the individual can be used as a referral source for the 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.
- Screen candidates for the purposes of being allowed to take the final clinical examination.

#### Eligibility:

- Successful completion of the required period of residency training.
- Obtaining a training completion certificate (or equivalent) issued by the local supervisory committee based on a satisfactory Final In-Training Evaluation Report (FITER) and any other related requirements assigned by any mentioned scientific boards (e.g. research, publication, logbook, etc.).
- Registering for the examination at least one month before the exam date.

#### Rules:

- The Saudi Diploma of Family Medicine Final written examination will be held once each year on a date published on the SCFHS website.
- Examination dates should be provided by the Specialty Examination Committee (SEC) in accordance with the fixed annual schedule submitted by the examination department.
- There shall be no resit examination.
- A candidate would remain eligible for Saudi Diploma of Family Medicine Final written examination for a period not longer than three years provided they could prove they had been clinically active.

**Examination Format:**

- A Saudi Diploma of Family Medicine Final written examination shall consist of two papers each with 100 Single Best Answer (SBA) MCQs (majority shall consist of clinical scenarios). Ten unscored items can be added for pretesting purposes.
- The examination shall contain mostly type K2 questions (interpretation, analysis, reasoning and decision making) and type K1 questions (recall and comprehension),
- Clinical presentation questions include history, clinical finding and patient approach. Diagnosis and investigation questions; includes the possible diagnosis and diagnostic methodologies (laboratory investigation, radiological imaging and clinical procedures), Management questions; includes treatment and clinical management non-therapeutic, therapeutic, patient safety, complication. Health maintenance questions; includes health promotion, disease prevention, risk factors assessment, and prognosis, *see examples below*.
- The examination shall include basic concept and clinical questions relevant to Family Medicine, *see blueprint below*.

**Examination Conduct and Duration:**

Exam period shall be two hours for each paper, and the exam 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 whichever comes first. Under no circumstances can the passing score be reduced below 65%.

**Declaration of Result:**

All score reports shall go through a post-hoc item analysis before being issued and approved by the SCFHS and SEC within two weeks of the examination.

**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 for Saudi Diploma Final Written Examination of Family Medicine

### Textbooks:

- Swanson's Family Medicine Review
- Primary Care Medicine: Office Evaluation and Management of the Adult Patient (Goroll)
- CURRENT Diagnosis & Treatment in Family Medicine
- McWhinney's *Textbook of Family Medicine*
- Textbook of Family Medicine, By: Robert E. Rakel MD

### Journals:

- American Family Physician
- Annals of Family Medicine
- Archives of Family Medicine
- British Medical Journal (BMJ)
- British Journal of General Practice
- Canadian Family Physician

### Websites:

- [www.community.cochrane.org](http://www.community.cochrane.org)
- [www.uptodate.com](http://www.uptodate.com)
- AHRQ - Guidelines & Recommendations
- Canadian Task Force on Preventive Health Care (CTFPHC)
- US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) Recommendations
- NICE | The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

**MCQ Test Blueprint for Family Medicine Diploma Program Examination**

No	Section	Proportion
1	Family Medicine	10-15
2	Internal Medicine	25-35
3	Surgery	10-20
4	Ortho	4-6
5	Child Health	20-26
6	Mental health	15-20
7	Women Health	15-25
8	Emergency Medicine	10-16
9	Community health	8-12
10	ENT	6-10
11	Ophthalmology	6-10
12	Dermatology	10-15
<b>Total</b>		<b>200</b>

**Example Questions****EXAMPLES OF K2 QUESTIONS:****Question 1**

A 55 year-old farmer with coronary artery disease presents with headache, leg cramps and nausea. He has been working for the past two days in the afternoon collecting dates from his palm trees. On examination he looks ill and has flushed dry skin.

Blood pressure	75/40 mmHg
Heart rate	125 /min
Respiratory rate	30 /min
Temperature	41.7° C
Oxygen saturation	94% on face mask

What is the best management?

- A. Ice packs
- B. Cooling blanket
- C. Immerse in cold water
- D. Mist water spray and fan

**EXAMPLES OF K1 QUESTIONS:****Question 1**

Which of the following is most suggestive of a severe asthma exacerbation?

- A. O<sub>2</sub> saturation 92% on room air
- B. Venous Blood Gas PCO<sub>2</sub> 45 mm Hg
- C. Inspiratory and expiratory wheezes
- D. Peak Expiratory Flow Rate 50% of predicted