

## Family Medicine Diploma Program

### Promotion Exam; Family Medicine Diploma 2016

#### Objectives:

- The general objective of the annual promotion assessment is to evaluate that the trainee has satisfactorily acquired the theoretical knowledge and clinical competences that he/she should have acquired during the relevant year(s).
- The annual promotion assessment consists of the following components:
  - a. Written examination
  - b. Continuous Assessment

#### Eligibility for Written Examination:

- Valid registration with the SCFHS.
- Approval of the specialty local supervisory committee.

#### Written Examination Format:

- A written examination shall consist of one paper with 120 MCQs with a single best answer (one correct answer out of four options).
- The examination shall contain type K1 questions (recall and comprehension) and type K2 questions (interpretation, analysis, reasoning and decision making).
- 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*.

### Continuous Assessment Formats:

- Continuous assessment formats consist of:
  - a. Continuous Evaluation Reports (CER)**
    - CERs should be conducted at least three times which covers 9 training months per year.
    - CERs are submitted to local supervisory committee for each trainee based on a series of workplace-based assessments (WBA) considered relevant by the specialty.

### Passing Score for Promotion:

- An average of 60% score in the annual promotion assessment with a minimum of 50% in each component (written and continuous assessment) is required for passing.

### Score Report:

- All written examination score reports shall go through a post-hoc item analysis before being approved by both the Assistant of General Secretary for Postgraduate studies of SCFHS and SEC, and then reported to the scientific council for Family Medicine for promotion decisions for all trainees, within two weeks of the examination.
- SEC will to provide the scientific council for the specialty with results feedback represent the performance of all residents based on each section of the exam according to the test blueprint, and based on their training center if possible.

### General Rules:

- The written examination shall be held once a year within 4-6 weeks of completion of nine months of training in that particular year.
- There shall be no re-sit examination.
- There shall be no promotion written examination at the end of final year of training in diploma program.
- Promotion written examination and continuous assessment results are valid for the specific year in which they were conducted.
- A candidate cannot be promoted to an advanced level unless he/she has successfully completed at least 9 training months in the year of promotion.

### Examination Conduct and Duration:

The duration of the exam is 2½ hours and the exam will be delivered as a computer based test when available, otherwise paper and pencil.

### Exemption:

The SCFHS at present has no reciprocal arrangement with respect to this examination or qualification by any other college or board, in any specialty. Therefore, exemption from the examination due to the completion of any other previous postgraduate studies/examination has to be approved by the scientific council.

### Suggested References for Saudi Board Promotion Exam:

#### 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 Promotion Exam

No.	Section	Proportion
1	Family Medicine	8-12
2	Medicine	20-26
3	Surgery	8-12
4	Women Health	12-18
5	Mental Health	16-22
6	Child Health	18-24
7	Adult ER	12-18
<b>Total</b>		<b>120</b>

**Example Questions:**

**EXAMPLES OF K2:**

**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:**

**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