Saudi Board Part One Examination; Forensic Medicine 2017

Objectives:

- Part One Saudi Board Examination is designed to assess basic and clinical knowledge relevant to the Forensic Medicine specialty.
- Passing Saudi Board Part I Examination in Forensic Medicine is a prerequisite for any candidate to proceed to the senior level of training as determined by the specialty.

Eligibility:

- Current registration in the Saudi Board Forensic Medicine Training Program.
- Successful completion of at least nine months of training in any SCFHS residency training program.
- Completion of the registration form for the Saudi Board Part I Examination.

Rules:

- The Saudi Board Part I specialty examination will be held at least once each year on a date published on the SCFHS website.
- If the percentage of failures in the examination is 50% excluding R1 candidates, the exam shall be repeated after 6 months. Upon the approval of the General Secretary and at the discretion of the SEC, the exam may be repeated even if failure is less than 50% with a maximum number of two exams per academic year.
- Candidates are allowed a maximum of three attempts to pass Saudi Board Part I specialty examination and an exceptional attempt may be granted once during the whole training period upon the recommendation of the Scientific council of the specialty and the approval of the executive council, before being dismissed from the program.
- Passing Saudi Board Part I specialty examination is a prerequisite for any candidate to proceed to the senior level of training as determined by the specialty.

Examination Format:

- A Saudi Board Part I specialty written examination shall consist of one paper with minimum 120 single best answer (SBA) MCQs. Ten unscored items can be added for pretesting purposes. Each question will have four options to choose from (A, B, C, D).
• Questions will be K2 (reasoning and application) and K1 (recall and comprehension).
• Clinical presentation questions include history, clinical finding and patient approach. Management questions; includes non-therapeutic, therapeutic, patient safety, complication. Health maintenance questions; includes health promotion, disease prevention, risk factors assessment, and prognosis, see examples below.
• The examination content cover topics relevant to Forensic Medicine as well as research, EBM, professionalism and medical ethics see blueprint below.

Examination Conduct and Duration:
The exam duration is 2½ hours and will be delivered as a computer based test when available, otherwise paper and pencil.

Passing Score:
• The passing score is 65%. However if the percentage of candidates passing the exam is less than 70%, the passing score can be lowered by one mark at a time aiming at achieving 70% passing rate or a score of 60% whichever comes first. Under NO circumstances, may the score can be reduced below 60%.
• No compensation is allowed between the annual CER and the Saudi Board Part I Specialty Examination passing scores.

Score Report:
• All 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 issued by the SCFHS within two weeks of the examination.
• SEC shall provide the scientific council for the specialty with results feedback represent the performance of all fellows based on each section of the exam according to the test blueprint, and based on their training center if possible.

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 Part I: Principles of Forensic Medicine

1- Knight’s Forensic Pathology
2- M. Tsokos .Forensic Pathology Reviews
3- Vincent JM Di Maio and Suzanna E.Dana, Forensic pathology
4- Burkhard Madea ,Handbook of Forensic Medicine
5- Spitz, Medicolegal investigation of deaths
6- Forensic pathology of trauma
7- Handbook of Pediatric autopsy pathology, Edited by: Humana Press Arnold
8- Jason Payne James and Roger Byard. Encyclopedia of Forensic and legal medicine
9- Antony Busutil and Jason Payne James .Forensic medicine ,clinical and pathological aspect
10- Pathological Basics of Diseases. Robbins and Cotran
11- Journal of forensic and legal medicine
12- American Journal of forensic medicine and pathology
13- Forensic science international journal

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.
## Blueprint outlines (Saudi Board Part I Examination: Principles of Forensic Medicine)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Sections</th>
<th>Proportion (in ranges)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pathology</td>
<td>25-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Anatomy</td>
<td>10-15</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Forensic autopsy, Examination of dead body, and Identification</td>
<td>9-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Wound and their interpretation</td>
<td>2-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Head and spinal injuries</td>
<td>2-4</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Chest and abdominal trauma</td>
<td>1-3</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Gunshot and explosion injuries</td>
<td>5-7</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Death associated with pregnancy, Sudden infant death and Infanticide</td>
<td>2-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Violent asphyxia</td>
<td>3-5</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Injuries due to physical agents</td>
<td>1-3</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Postmortem artifacts</td>
<td>1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Sudden unexpected death</td>
<td>2-4</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Complication of injuries</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Forensic toxicology</td>
<td>7-10</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Others ¹</td>
<td>3-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Research and ethics</td>
<td>8-10</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>120</strong></td>
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¹Others: include road traffic accident, Immersion death.

**Note:**
Blueprint distributions of the examination may differ up to +/-3% in each category.
Example Questions

**EXAMPLES OF K2 QUESTIONS**

**Question 1**

A previously healthy 40 year-old woman experiences a severe headache and loses consciousness within an hour. She is taken to the hospital where a CT scan of the head revealed extensive subarachnoid hemorrhage. She had no fever and her blood pressure was within normal limits. A lumbar puncture yielded cerebrospinal fluid with many red blood cells, but no white blood cells. The CSF glucose was normal.

Which of the following is the most likely diagnosis?

A. Viral meningitis  
B. Cerebral infarction  
C. Ruptured berry aneurysm  
D. Acute bacterial meningitis

**Question 2**

A 50 year-old male underwent bone marrow allogeneic transplant due to chronic myeloid leukemia. The physician noticed a rising liver enzymes tender hepatomegaly and increase patient weight six month post-transplant. A liver biopsy showed obliteration of hepatic seen Radical by variable amount of collagen and central lobular congestion.

Which of the following is the most likely diagnosis?

A. Poliosis hepatis  
B. Portal vein thrombosis  
C. Veno-occlusive disease  
D. Hepatic vein thrombosis

**EXAMPLES OF K1**

**Question 1**

Which of the following lead to respiratory injury due to air bag deployment?

A. Sodium azide  
B. Lead styhnate  
C. Nitroglycerine  
D. Mercury fulminate
Question 2

Which of the following wound will most likely have shortening of an entrance?

A. Re-entry  
B. Hard contact  
C. Loose contact  
D. Angled contact

**EXAMPLES OF RESEARCH AND ETHICS QUESTIONS**

**Ethics:**

**Question 1**

A surgeon with a busy operation list was told by his assistant that the next operation is to remove the patient’s right kidney. After the operation it was found that it was the left kidney that should have been removed.

Which term best describes this event?

A. Sentinel event  
B. Adverse event  
C. Unintentional error  
D. Medical negligence

**Research:**

**Question 1**

A study was conducted to determine if there was a difference in the prevalence of diabetes mellitus among health care workers in Riyadh. The results showed that 30 out of 100 doctors were diabetic as compared to 50 out of 200 nurses.

Which is the most appropriate statistical test?

A. t-test  
B. ANOVA  
C. Chi-square  
D. Correlation