



SAUDI FELLOWSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

Palliative Medicine

Final Written Examination 2020

Examination Format:

The Saudi subspecialty fellowship and diplomas final written examination shall consist of one paper with 80-120 multiple-choice questions (single best answer out of four options). 10 unscored items can be added for pretesting purposes.

Passing Score:

The passing score is 70%. However, if the percentage of candidates passing the examination before final approval is less than 70%, the passing score must 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%.

Blueprint Outlines:

No.	Sections	Percentage (%)
1	Pain Management	25%
2	Non-Pain Symptoms Management	20%
3	Approach to Care	10%
4	Communication and Multidisciplinary Team Work	8%
5	Diagnosis	7%
6	Grief and Bereavement	4%
7	Advance Care Planning and Legal Decision Making	4%
8	Dying and Hospice	4%
9	Psychosocial and Spiritual Care	4%
10	Non-Malignant Diseases	2%
11	Pediatrics Palliative Care	2%
Research, Ethics and Professionalism and Patient Safety		10%
Total		100%

Note:

Blueprint distributions of the examination may differ up to +/-3% in each category.

Suggested References:

- Saudi Palliative Care National Clinical Guideline for Oncology, 2018.
Accessed :
<http://shc.gov.sa/ar/NCC/Documents/Saudi%20Palliative%20Care%20National%20Clinical%20Guideline%20for%20Oncology.pdf>
- National Comprehensive Cancer Network. Accessed:
<https://www.nccn.org/>
- Professionalism and Ethics, Handbook for Residents, Practical guide, Prof. James Ware, Dr. Abdulaziz Fahad Alkaabba, Dr. Ghaiath MA Hussein, Prof. Omar Hasan Kasule, SCFHS, Latest Edition.
- Essentials of Patient Safety, SCHS, Latest Edition.

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.



Example Questions

EXAMPLE OF K2 QUESTIONS

Question 1

A 67-year-old man with metastatic prostate cancer presented with increasing pain in his right hip. He described the pain as worse with movement and complained that he was now unable to walk his dog. His prostate cancer was treated with 3-monthly goserelin injections. Examination revealed that he had tenderness over the right trochanter (see lab result and report).

Test	Result	Normal Values
Prostate-specific antigen	3	(<4 µg/L)

X-ray:

The right hip large lytic lesion with cortical thinning within upper third of right femur

Which of the following is the most appropriate next step in management?

- A. Bisphosphonate
- B. Internal fixation
- C. Physiotherapy
- D. Radiotherapy

EXAMPLE OF K1

Question 2

Which of the following is an example of passive euthanasia?

- A. Suffocating the patient
- B. Stopping the respirator pump
- C. Adjusting life support machines to interfere with heartbeat
- D. Giving too much morphine to a patient who is begging for a small dose