

SAUDI BOARD RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM

PATHOLOGY

Part One Examination

Examination Format:

1. Part I Examination of Saudi board certificate shall consist of one paper with 150 multiple-choice questions (single best answer out of four options). Up to 10% unscored items can be added for pretesting purposes.
2. If any other assessment format is used, the Central Assessment Committee must agree to its implementation.

Passing Score:

1. The passing score is 65%.
2. If the percentage of candidates passing the exam before final approval 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%.

Suggested References:

1. Robbins and Cotran Pathologic Basis of Disease. 9th Edition
2. Rosai and Ackerman's Surgical Pathology. 10th Edition
3. WHO classification Series. IARC
4. Cytology: Diagnostic Principles and Clinical Correlates, by Edmund Cibas and Barbara Ducatman
5. Manual of Surgical Pathology, by Susan Lester
6. College of American Pathologist quality manual
7. 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.
8. 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.

Blueprint Outlines:

No.	Sections	Percentage (%)
1	Surgical Pathology (including frozen section)	25%
2	Cytopathology	9%
3	General Pathology	34%
4	Systemic Pathology	15%
5	Gross Pathology	3%
6	Quality and Safety	3%
7	Ancillary Studies ¹	3%
Research, Ethics and Professionalism and Patient Safety		8%
Total		100%

Ancillary studies¹: includes special stains, immunohistochemistry, molecular and cytogenetics studies, and electron microscopy.

Note:

- Blueprint distributions of the examination may differ up to +/-3% in each category.
- Percentages and content are subject to change at any time. See the SCFHS website for the most up-to-date information.

Example Questions

EXAMPLE OF K2 QUESTIONS

Question 1

A 30-year-old man was found to have splenomegaly and pancytopenia (see reports).

Bone marrow biopsy:

Plump macrophages with a characteristic cytoplasmic appearance of crumpled tissue paper.

Genetic studies:

Mutation in the gene encoding glucocerebrosidase.

Which of the following is the most likely diagnosis?

- A. Gaucher disease
- B. Tay-Sachs disease
- C. Mucopolysaccharidosis
- D. Niemann-Pick syndrome

EXAMPLE OF K1

Question 2

Which one of the following is best viewed by transmission electron microscopy for high magnification?

- A. Surface structure of fixed cells
- B. Internal structure of fixed cells
- C. Internal structure of live, motile cells
- D. Surface membranes of live, motile cells