

SAUDI BOARD RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM

NEUROLOGY MEDICINE

Final Written Examination

Examination Format:

1. A Saudi board final specialty written examination shall consist of two papers each with 100-125 SBA MCQs. Up to 10% unscored items can be added for pretesting purposes.
2. If any other assessment format is used, the CAC must agree to its implementation (for example Short Answer Question (SAQ) or Modified Essay Question (MEQ) formats).

Passing Score:

1. 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%.

Suggested References:

1. Neurology in Clinical Practice: Principles of Diagnosis and Management (Bradley)
2. Principles of Neurology (Adams & Victor)
3. Merritt's Neurology.
4. Localization in Clinical Neurology (Brazis)
5. Neurological Differential Diagnosis (John Patten)
6. 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.
7. 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	Cerebrovascular Diseases	11%
2	Epilepsy , Psychiatry,& Sleep	11 %
3	Neuromuscular & related	13%
4	Demyelinating & Multiple Sclerosis & Spinal Cord	9%
5	Movement Disorders	9%
6	Dementia	7%
7	Pain & Headache	7%
8	CNS Infection	7%
9	NeuroOphthalmology	5%
10	Neoplasia & Paraneoplasia	5%
11	Trauma, and Neurology of Systemic Diseases	5%
12	Pediatric Neurology,Nutritional & Metabolic diseases	5%
Research, Ethics and Professionalism and Patient Safety		6%
Total		100%

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 24 year-old presented with history of numbness in the left arm and leg one year ago that lasted for one month then resolved. One month ago, she experienced visual blurring in the right eye followed by loss of color vision, associated with pain upon moving the eyeball around. MRI of the Brain and Spinal cord is positive for white matter lesions in the supra and infra-tentorial spaces.

CSF examination as follows (see lab results):

Test	Result	Normal Values
WBC	4	0-5/mm ³
RBC	0	0-10/mm ³
Glucose	3.5	2.5–4.4 mmol/L
Protein	25	20-40 mg/dl
Oligo-Clonal –Bands	Absent	Absent
Blood Glucose	5.6	3.5–6.5 mmol/L

Which of the following is the best next step in treatment?

- A. Observation
- B. Natalizumab
- C. Pulse-Steroids
- D. Beta-Interferon

EXAMPLE OF K1

Question 2

Which of the following congenital infections is associated with hydrocephalus?

- A. CMV
- B. Rubella
- C. Toxoplasmosis
- D. Varicella Zoster