



SAUDI BOARD RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM

NEUROSURGERY

Final Written Examination

Examination Format:

1. A Saudi board final specialty written examination shall consist of two papers each with 100-125 SBA MCQs. Ten 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:

- Youman's Neurological Surgery, Latest Edition
- Schmidek and Sweet: Operative Neurosurgical Techniques.
- Handbook of Neurosurgery by Mark Greenberg.
- Neuropathology: A Reference Text of CNS Pathology: by David Ellison and Seth.
- Barr's The Human Nervous System by John Kiernan.
- WHO Classification of Tumours of the Central Nervous System.
- The International Agency for Research on Cancer.
- Rhoton's Cranial Anatomy and Surgical Approaches by Albert Rhoton.
- 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, SCFHS, 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:

Section	%
Clinical and Operative Neurosurgery	
Neurovascular	10%
Neuro-oncology	10%
Cranial Trauma	5%
Pediatric Neurosurgery	10%
Spine	10%
Infection	5%
Functional Neurosurgery	5%
Peripheral Nerve	5%
General Neurosurgical Principles/ Neurosurgical Approaches/ Adjuvant Therapies	5%
Basic Neurosciences and Practice related topics	
Neuro-Anatomy / Neurosurgical Anatomy	10%
Neuropathology & Molecular Biology/ Neuroradiology & Diagnostic Approaches	10%
Pathophysiology/ Neurophysiology/ Neurology	5%
Neurocritical & General Care/ Pharmacology/ Neuro-Anesthesia	5%
Research, Ethics & Professionalism and Patient Safety	5%
Total	100%

Note:

- Blueprint distribution 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 21-year-old man sustained cervical spine injury after a fall. His Glasgow Coma Score is 15 (see report).

Blood pressure 100/55 mmhg
 Heart Rate 86 beat per minute

CT spine:

Showed a transverse fracture line that extends through the body of C2 below the base of odontoid process. CT cervical spine is shown (see images).

Which of the following represent the classification of this fracture?

- A. Type I, Odontoid
- B. Type II, Odontoid
- C. Type III, Odontoid
- D. Type II, Hangman's

EXAMPLE OF K1

Question 2

An 18-year-old man is brought into the Emergency Department after a motor vehicle accident. On examination, he will open his eyes to painful stimulation, makes incomprehensible sounds, and withdraws his extremities to painful stimulation.

What is the Glasgow Coma Scale score?

- A. 5
- B. 6



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- C. 7
- D. 8