



SAUDI FELLOWSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

Adult Cardiology

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	Basic sciences/HTN/Cardiac Pathology/Cardiac Physiology	12%
2	Clinical Examination	7%
3	Aortic Disease	8%
4	CAD	23%
5	Cardiomyopathies/Heart Failure /Pregnancy	12%
6	Cardiac Arrhythmia	8%
7	Valvular Diseases	16%
8	Adult Congenital Heart Diseases ACHD	3%
9	Cardiac Pharmacology	2%
10	Pericardial/Systemic Diseases	5%
Research, Ethics and Professionalism and Patient Safety		4%
Total		100%

Blueprint Outlines (Data Interpretation):

No.	Sections	Percentage (%)
1	Echo Studies	11%
2	Coronary Angiograms	11%
3	Nuclear studies	11%
4	Hemodynamic Tracings	11%
5	EP Tracings	4%
6	CT-angio	2%
7	Cardiac MRI	2%
8	Holter Monitors	3%
9	ECGs	45%
Total		100%

Note:

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



Suggested References:

- Heart Disease- A textbook of cardiovascular medicine By Braunwald, Zipes and Libby
- Cardiology By M. Crawford, J. DiMarco and W. Paulus
- Textbook of Interventional Cardiology By Topol
- Textbook of Clinical Echocardiography By C. Otto
- Feigenbaum's Echocardiography
- The Echo Manual By J. Oh
- ASE's Comprehensive Echocardiography
- Hemodynamic Rounds By M. Kern
- The Art and Science of bedside diagnosis By Sapira
- Interventional Cardiology By Singer
- Mayo Clinic Cardiovascular Board Review By J. Murphy and M. Lloyd
- 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

Which of the following is a rare side effect of ACE inhibitors?

- A. Cough
- B. Hypotension
- C. Hypokalemia
- D. Agranulocytosis

EXAMPLE OF K1

Question 2

A 56-year-old man is coming for a scheduled clinic follow up. Blood pressure readings have been ranging between 166/90 and 170/100 mmHg for most of the time. His physical activity is limited by shortness of breath, but no other symptoms. He has been receiving incremental doses of antihypertensive medications which currently consist of; Lisinopril 40 mg, Amlodipine 10 mg and carvedilol 25 mg twice daily. Basic laboratory tests are within normal limits. ECG shows voltage criteria for left ventricular hypertrophy with strain pattern. After ensuring adequate adherence with medications and accurate BP measurement technique.

Which of the following is the best next step?

- A. Ambulatory BP monitor
- B. Doppler renal ultrasound
- C. Start hydrochlorothiazide
- D. Renal denervation therapy