



SAUDI BOARD RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM

Cardiac Surgery

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:

- Kirklin/Barratt-Boyes Cardiac Surgery, 4th Edition
- Sabiston and Spencer Surgery of the Chest, 9e 9th Edition
- Cardiac Surgery in the Adult Fifth Edition 6th Edition
- 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.
- Sabiston Testbook of Surgery by Mark Evers et al (20th 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	Principles of Cardiac Surgical Care	11%
2	Adult Cardiac Surgery – Coronary	16%
3	Adult Cardiac Surgery - Valvular	16%
4	Adult Cardiac Surgery - Aorta	9%
5	Surgery for Heart Failure	11%
6	Pacemaker/ICD/EP Surgery	7%
7	Tumors and pericardial disease	5%
8	Congenital Cardiac Surgery	15%
9	CPB and Cardioplegia	5%
	Research, Ethics & Professionalism and patient safety	5%
	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

EXAMPLES OF K2 QUESTIONS

Question 1



A 55-year-old diabetic man with angina on moderate effort presented to the cardiology clinic. His Echo revealed mild to moderate mitral regurgitation and LV ejection fraction of 55%. The cardiologist did a diagnostic catheterization and presented him to the heart team conference. The above two images are representative of his anatomy (see images).

Which of the following statements is the most appropriate management?

- A. Multi-vessel PCI
- B. CABG including LIMA to LAD
- C. CABG and mitral replacement (or repair) surgery
- D. Medical treatment and if failed intervention is indicated

EXAMPLES OF K1

Question 2

An 80-year-old lady had mitral valve replacement, during chest tube placement, a significant amount of bright red blood was noticed to be collecting behind the heart.

Which of the following is the best course of action?

- A. Suspect AV disruption and consult a senior surgeon
- B. Lift the apex of the heart and look for the site of bleeding
- C. Pack the posterior pericardium with Surgicel for 20 minutes
- D. Insert an additional tube behind the heart to avoid tamponade