

## SAUDI BOARD RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM

### NEUROSURGERY

#### Promotion Examination

##### Written Examination Format:

- A written examination shall consist of one paper with not less than 100 MCQs with a single best answer (one correct answer out of four options).
- The examination shall contain type K2 questions (interpretation, analysis, reasoning and decision making) and type K1 questions (recall and comprehension).
- The examination shall include basic concepts and clinical topics relevant to the specialty.
- Clinical presentation questions include history, clinical finding and patient approach. Diagnosis and investigation questions; include the possible diagnosis and diagnostic methods. Management questions; including treatment and clinical management, either therapeutic or non-therapeutic, and complications of management. Materials and Instruments questions; including material properties, usage, and selection of instruments and equipment used. Health maintenance questions; include health promotion, disease prevention, risk factors assessment, and prognosis.

##### Passing Score for Promotion Exam:

The trainee's performance is assessed in each of the evaluation formulas according to the following scoring system:

Score	Less than 50%	50% – 59.4%	60% - 69.4%	More than 70%
Description	Clear Fail	Borderline Fail	Borderline Pass	Clear Pass

1. To upgrade the trainee from a training level to the next level, She/he must obtain at least a **Borderline Pass** in each evaluation form.
2. The program director may recommend to the local supervision committee to request the promotion of the trainee who did not meet the previous promotion requirement according to the following:
  - A. In case that the trainee gets a **borderline Fail** result in **one** of the evaluation forms, the remaining evaluation forms must be passed with **Clear Pass** in at least **one** of them.



- B. In case that the trainee gets a **borderline Fail** result in **two** of the evaluation forms to a maximum, provided they do not fall under the same theme (Knowledge, Attitude, Skills). The remaining evaluation forms must be passed with **Clear Pass** in at least **two** of them.
- C. The promotion must be approved in this case by the scientific council for the specialization.

### Blueprint Outlines

No.	Section	Proportion%
1	Vascular	25%
2	Pediatrics	5%
3	Anatomy, physiology, and embryology	5%
4	Oncology, skull base, and surgical approaches	5%
5	Trauma	5%
6	Spine	25%
7	Functional and epilepsy	20%
8	Critical care, general, and peripheral nerves	5%
9	Ethics	5%
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>

#### **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.

#### **Suggested References:**

- 1- Handbook of Neurosurgery Book by Mark S. Greenberg
- 2- Essential neurosurgery Book by Andrew H. Kaye
- 3- Youmans Neurological Surgery
- 4- Benzel's Spine Surgery
- 5- Core Techniques in Operative Neurosurgery Rahul Jandial, Paul McCormick, and Peter Black
- 6- Neurosurgery Case Review Questions and Answers by Nadder, Sabbagh
- 7- Rhoton's Cranial Anatomy and Surgical Approaches

### Crash Courses:

- Outline of each course including suggested reading references given by the provider.

### **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 K1 QUESTIONS

##### Question 1

Which agent below can be used to increase cerebral blood flow irrespective of cerebral perfusion pressure?

- A. Lasix
- B. Mannitol
- C. Ketamine
- D. Levophed

#### EXAMPLE OF K2 QUESTIONS

##### Question 1

Following a blunt injury sustained during a motor vehicle crash, a patient is fully awake and the CT brain and secondary survey are non-contributory. The patient developed a brief episode of right sided weakness and aphasia lasting 10 minutes. Digital subtraction angiogram revealed an acute carotid artery dissection in the origin of the left internal carotid artery with moderate flow compromise.

Which of the following is the most appropriate intervention?

- A. Carotid stenting
- B. Carotid endarterectomy
- C. Carotid artery Huntarian ligation
- D. No intervention, medical therapy will suffice