



الهيئة السعودية للتخصصات الصحية
Saudi Commission for Health Specialties

Pediatrics Postgraduate Examination

CONTENT GUIDELINE



EXAMINATION OUTLINE

The Pediatrics postgraduate examination content has been categorized into 13 major content areas referred to as content sections, which are presented in the table below. Each of these sections comprises a specific percentage of the overall examination. The sections are described in the following table:

Section	Content Outline	Weight	
		part one	Final written
1. General Pediatrics Growth & Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abdominal Pain • Abnormal Bleeding • Acne • Anemia • Atopic Dermatitis • Birthmarks • Bottle Feeding • Breastfeeding • Bronchial Asthma • Cervical Adenitis • Change in Urine Color • Colic • Congenital Hip Dislocation • Conjunctival Infection • Constitutional Symptoms • Delays in Developmental Milestones • Evaluation of Surgical Patients • Excessive Crying • Heart Murmur • Hematuria • Hiccups • Hip Clicks • Jittering • Labial Adhesions • Mis-positioning of feet • Pre-and Post-Op • Recurrent Infections • Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect • Viral URTI and LRTI 	30%	20%



<p>2. Adolescent and behavioural/ ambulatory</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADHD • Constipation • Depression • Eating Disorders • Enuresis • Well Childcare (with Anticipatory Guidance) • Well Adolescent Care (with Anticipatory Guidance) • Short Stature • Skin Rashes • Strabismus • Failure to Thrive • Growing Pains 	<p>10%</p>	<p>10%</p>
<p>3. Acute care (Neonatal / Pediatric Intensive Care & Emergency)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Neonatology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory distress • Cyanosis • Prematurity • Neonatal Seizures • Intrauterine growth retardation • Neonatal Vomiting • Apnea • Neonatal Sepsis • Birth asphyxia • Congenital anomalies and associated problems • Neonatal surgical emergencies - PICU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory failure • Significant pneumothorax • Cardiac failure • Dysrhythmia • ARDS • High ICP • Burn • Sepsis/septic shock • Upper airway disease (including stridor, foreign bodies, congenital anatomical abnormalities) • Acute renal failure • Fluid and electrolyte disturbance • Diabetic ketoacidosis • Mechanical ventilation set up • Central line selection 	<p>15%</p>	<p>15%</p>



	<p>- Emergency</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toxic ingestions/poisonings • Trauma (including acute traumatic spinal cord injuries) • Anaphylaxis • Drowning • Status epilepticus • Poisoning/toxic exposure • Foreign body aspiration, ingestion 		
4. Cardiology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congestive heart failure • Infective endocarditis • Cyanotic spells • Kawasaki disease/vasculitis syndromes • Tachyarrhythmia and Bradyarrhythmia • Rheumatic heart disease • Neonates with cyanosis • Common Congenital heart disease • Common Acquired heart disease • Cardiomyopathies/ myocarditis • Pericarditis 	5%	7%
5. Neurology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seizure disorders • Paroxysmal disorders • Altered states of consciousness • Headache • Increased intracranial pressure • Psychomotor retardation and regression • Hypotonia • Flaccid limb weakness in childhood • Disturbances of sensation • Ataxia • Paraplegia and quadriplegia Hemiplegia • Movement disorders • Brainstem and cranial dysfunction • Disorder of cranial volume and shape 	5%	7%



<p>6. Gastroenterology / Nutrition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malnutrition, including long-term Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN) • Cholestasis • Failure to thrive • Chronic diarrhea • Abdominal pain • Hepatomegaly • GERD • PUD • GI bleed • Acute and chronic liver failure • Pancreatitis and pancreatic anomalies • IBD • Diverticulitis • Wilson and metabolic liver diseases • Neonatal jaundice 	<p>5%</p>	<p>5%</p>
<p>7. Pulmonology / Allergy & Immunology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bronchial asthma • Allergic rhinitis • Urticaria • Angioedema • Atopic dermatitis • Drug allergy • Food allergy • Primary immunodeficiency • Severe combined immunodeficiency (SCID) • Antibody deficiency • Phagocytic defects (including CGD), neutrophil disorder (e.g., LAD), complement deficiency • Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) • Serum sickness syndrome • Airway obstruction • Sleep apnea and life-threatening events • Bronchopulmonary dysplasia • Cystic fibrosis • Foreign body in the lower airways • Emphysema • Pulmonary complications of HIV infection • Chronic Respiratory failure • Tuberculosis • Congenital lung anomalies 	<p>5%</p>	<p>6%</p>



<p>8. Nephrology /rheumatology /dermatology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nephrology• Acute and chronic renal failure• Nephrotic /nephritic syndrome• Acute nephritis• Hypertension• obstructive uropathy• Nephrolithiasis• Voiding disorder• Hematuria and proteinuria• Tubular disorder• Renal physiology (acid-base balance, electrolytes)• Clinical problem (hematuria, protienuria, polyuria)• Rheumatology• Juvenile idiopathic arthritis• Systemic lupus erythematosus• Juvenile dermatomyositis• Mixed connective tissue diseases• Vasculitis• Kawasaki disease• Acute rheumatic fever• Pyrexia of unknown origin• Arthritis• dermatology• Eczema• Viral exanthem• diaper rash.• seborrheic dermatitis.• warts.• acne.	<p>5%</p>	<p>6%</p>
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<p>9. Infectious diseases / Immunization /preventive medicine</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common infections caused by viral, bacterial, fungal, and parasitic agents. • Bacteremia: fulminant, occult, and associated with IV devices • CNS infections: Meningitis, encephalitis, abscesses, and VP shunt related • Osteoarticular infections (osteomyelitis/arthritis) • Fever of unknown origin • Perinatal/congenital infections • Endemic and tropical infections: TB, malaria, brucellosis, Leishmaniasis • Common infections in the immunocompromised host • HIV Infection • Life-threatening infections • Antimicrobial agents • Infection control and prevention • Child with recurrent infections • Saudi immunization program • Catch-up immunization • Additional immunization 	<p>5%</p>	<p>7%</p>
<p>10. Hematology / Oncology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Febrile neutropenia • Tumor lysis syndrome • Superior vena cava (mediastinal) syndrome • Leukemia and lymphomas • Bleeding disorders (coagulation disorders, ITP) • Treatment of thalassemia (iron over load) • Sickle cell disease (vaso-occlusive crises, infection, sequestration, aplastic crisis) • thrombocytopenia and platelet dysfunction • anemia in children approach and management • Solid tumors from biopsy aspect, radiological indications, and general treatment approach • Dealing with side effects of chemotherapy • Oncology emergencies/chemotherapy side effect 	<p>5%</p>	<p>5%</p>



<p>11. Genetics & Metabolic Diseases / Endocrinology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acute metabolic decompensation amino acid disorder, organic acidemias, urea cycle disorders, and carbohydrate metabolism.• Chronic neurogenetic diseases related to metabolic disturbances.• Common single genetic disorders including metabolic disorders (lysosomal disorders, organic acidemias, amino acidopathies, carbohydrate metabolism disorders, and urea cycle defects) and other single genetic disorders (cystic fibrosis, hematological diseases like sickle cell anemia, G6PD, thalassemia, etc.), multifactorial disorder (DM, cleft lip/palate, etc.),• Chromosomal disorders (trisomies, common deletion, duplication, translocations).• Common dysmorphic syndromes and understanding Saudi clinical variations <p>Endocrinology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diabetes mellitus• Short stature• Childhood obesity• Congenital and acquired hypothyroidism• Hyperthyroidism and goiter• Panhypopituitarism• Diabetes insipidus• Hypoparathyroidism• Hypocalcemia/rickets• Ambiguous genitalia• Congenital adrenal hyperplasia• Precocious/delayed puberty• Neonatal hypoglycemia• Dyslipidemias	<p>5%</p>	<p>6%</p>
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<p>12. Pediatric Surgery / Ophthalmology / ENT</p>	<p>Pediatric surgery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pediatric trauma • Intussusception • Neonatal surgical emergencies • Acute abdomen • TEF (tracheo-esophageal fistula) • Pyloric stenosis • Duodenal atresia • Volvulus • Hirschbring disease • Per and post-surgical care • Toxic megacolon <p>ophthalmology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cataract • Childhood Tearing • Double Vision • Glaucoma • Nystagmus • Strabismus • Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) • Developmental Abnormalities <p>ENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tonsillitis/Adenoiditis and Adenoid Hypertrophy • Breathing /Sleep Difficulties • Otitis Media /Cholesteatoma • Cleft Lip / Palate • Congenital Abnormalities of the Ear • Epistaxis (nose bleeds) • Hearing Loss • Hoarseness/Hypernasal Speech • Laryngopharyngeal Reflux • Lump or Mass in the Neck • Nasal Deformities/Obstruction • Sinusitis • Tongue Tie • Traumatic Injuries to the Head and Neck • Vocal Cord Paralysis <p>Orthopedics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip (DDH) • Slipped Capital Femoral Epiphysis (SCFE) 39 • Hip Septic Arthritis Osteomyelitis • Leg Length Discrepancy (LLD) 	<p>5%</p>	<p>6%</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cavovarus Foot in Pediatrics• Osteopetrosis• Legg-Calve-Perthes Disease• Genu Valgum (knocked knees)• Arthrogyposis• Adolescent Blount's Disease• Nursemaid's Elbow• Transient Synovitis of Hip• Common pediatric fractures		
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* Blueprint distributions of the examination may differ up to +/-5% in each category

* Applies to Pediatrics postgraduate examinations as of Jan 2020



EXAMINATION DOMAINS

These domains reflect practice that will be assessed in all examinations. The domains are not mutually independent such that items can be designed for a particular domain or for multiple domains solely. Principles of patient safety underscore each of the domains.

ASSESSMENT/DIAGNOSIS

Discriminates important from unimportant information and reaches a reasonable differential diagnosis and/or diagnosis. Explores illness and disease using clinical judgment to gather, interpret and synthesize relevant information.

MANAGEMENT

Discusses therapeutic management, including but not limited to pharmacotherapy, adverse effects and patient safety, illness prevention and health promotion when appropriate. Selects appropriate treatments (including monitoring, counseling, and follow-up); considers risks and benefits of therapy and instructs the patient accordingly.

INVESTIGATIONS

Selects suitable laboratory or diagnostic studies to elucidate or confirm the diagnosis; takes into consideration associated risks and benefits.

DATA INTERPRETATION

Interprets investigative data appropriately in the context of the problem(s).

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIORS

Attitudes, knowledge, and skills relating to clinical and/or medical administrative competence, communication, ethics, as well as societal and legal duties. The understanding and application of these behaviors demonstrates a commitment to excellence, respect, integrity, empathy, and accountability. Professional behaviors also include but are not limited to self-awareness, reflection, life-long learning, leadership, and scholarly habits.



REFERENCES

Suggested References
▪ Nelson Textbook of Pediatrics, 20th Edition. Robert M. Kliegman, Bonita M.D. Stanton, Joseph St. Geme, Nina Schor, and Richard E. Behrman (Main reference).
▪ The Harriet Lane Handbook, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Branden Engorn, and Jamie Flerlage, MD.
▪ Red Book. AAP Committee on Infectious Diseases. Larry K. Pickering, Carol J. Baker, and David W. Kimberlin
▪ Pediatric Secrets. Richard A. Polin, and Mark F. Ditmar
▪ 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
▪ Nelson Pediatric Symptom-based diagnosis Robert M, Kliegman Patricia S. Lye
▪ Nelson Pediatrics Board Review, 1st Edition Certification and Recertification
▪ UpToDate



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 from these sources.