



INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Regarding the examination

There are three components of this examination.

COMPONENTS	TIME ALLOWED	MAX. MARKS	PASS MARKS
1. TOACS (15-18 stations)	4-8 minutes per station	10	6
2. CLINICAL Long case	60 minutes total 30 minutes for history taking and clinical examination 30 minutes for discussion	10	6
3. VIVA VOCE Station I	2 examiners at each station total 50 minutes	10	6
Station II	25 minutes for each examiners	10	6
AGGREGATE		40	24 (60%)

TOACS (10 marks)

Task-Oriented Assessment of Clinical Skills (TOACS) will be held on the first day of the examination at the same time, at all centres, for all the candidates declared eligible for clinical part of the relevant examination. **Candidates will be sent information regarding the schedule of TOACS by the Examination Department.**

In the TOACS the candidates will be evaluated on procedures, x-rays, laboratory findings, instruments, specimens etc. This component of examination will consist of 15 to 18 stations, 4-8 minutes per station arranged in the examination hall and the candidates will have to rotate through all of them in turn. The TOACS stations will be of two types:

- Observed / Interactive
- Unobserved / Static

In addition to the detailed instructions enclosed, the candidates will also receive verbal instructions at the time of the examination

LONG CASE (10 marks 60 minutes)

Each candidate will be allotted one long case and allowed 30 minutes for history taking and clinical examination. Candidates should take a careful history from the patient (or relative) and after a thorough physical examination identify the problems which the patient presents. During this period the candidate will be observed by the examiners on his/her approach to the patient, bed side manners and clinical methods. **Candidates are not required to write a formal history but they may take notes for their own use for presentation of the case history, findings and discussion.**

Case presentation and discussion on the long case will be conducted jointly by two examiners for 30 minutes. In this section the candidates will be assessed on the following areas:

Interviewing and Clinical examinations skills

- Introduces oneself, listens patiently, and is polite with the patient.
- Is able to extract relevant information.
- Takes informed consent.
- Uses correct clinical methods systematically (including appropriate exposure and re-draping).

Case Presentation/Discussion

- Presentation skills.
- Pathophysiology of associated diseases (e.g. diabetes mellitus, hypertension).
- Management plan for primary and associated diseases (e.g. diabetes mellitus, hypertension).
- Anaesthetic management.
- Pre-operative anaesthetic assessment.
- Post operative management
- ICU management, if any.

During case discussion the candidates may ask the examiners for laboratory investigations which will be provided, if available. Even if they are not available and are relevant candidates will get the credit for the suggestion.

VIVA VOCE - 2 STATIONS (20 marks..... 100 minutes)

The viva voce examination will be conducted on two stations (10 marks and 50 minutes at each station) and the candidate's will be examined orally by two examiners at each station, 25 minutes for each examiners. Questions asked will cover the entire area of the specialty including machines, equipment for monitoring the patient, medical gases and drugs. They are expected to know all the sundries of anaesthesia. This part of the examination will assess the candidate's ability to solve problems, reaction in an emergency situation, concepts and overview of current issues. The art of communicating knowledge in a concise manner will also be tested. Questions may also be asked on the basis of clinical experience documented in the log books.

At each station the viva voce examination will last for 25 minutes and will be conducted by a pair of examiners. This part of the examination will assess the candidate's ability to solve problems, reaction in an emergency situation, concepts and overview of current medical issues. The art of communicating the knowledge in the relevant field of medicine in concise manner will also be tested.

NOTE: The candidate are required to fill a self explanatory 'feedback proforma' at the end of the examination.

DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS

1. Entry with admit card only.
The candidates must display their admit cards on their white coats throughout the examination.
2. Response sheet:
 - Prior to entering the examination hall each candidate will be provided with a response sheet. Candidates must write their **roll number** on the response sheet before starting TOACS examination.
 - The candidate will only carry his/her response sheet while rotating through the stations. No other papers will be allowed in the examination hall.
3. The candidate is not supposed to remove any document or material from any station.
4. Each station will carry equal weightage. Every station must be attempted.
5. **A specified time will be allotted at each station which will be signaled by a bell.**

Conduct of Examination

1. The examination is in the form of a circuit. At the start the candidate would occupy the station allocated to him / her according to their roll numbers, and will move to the next station when the bell rings.
2. At these stations clear instructions would be written for performance of a task. The candidate is expected to read the instructions and act accordingly.

On unobserved / static stations the candidate will be presented with a clinical case, laboratory data, x-ray, ultrasound, CT scan, instrument, specimen etc. and will be asked to give written responses to questions asked.

In the observed / interactive stations the candidate will have to perform a procedure for example taking history, performing clinical examination, counseling, assembling an instrument etc. One examiner will be present at each such station who will either rate the performance of the candidate or ask questions testing the reasoning and problem-solving skills.

3. The performance of each candidate will be assessed by the examiners on a pre determined assessment form and the candidates will have to submit written responses to one-best / short answer questions in the response sheet.
4. Candidates will rotate through the stations in this way till they have completed the circuit. They will move only in one direction as displayed in the hall by arrow marks and will not be allowed to go back to the previous station.

NOTE: The candidate are required to fill a self explanatory 'feedback proforma' at the end of the examination.