

FRCS Ophthalmology Part 3 Online Delivery

Supplementary document to current regulations

This document should be read in conjunction with the current examination regulations but replaces the following sections:

Section 4 Format of the Examination

4.3 Part 3

Part 3 consists of two sections and candidates must sit both parts of this examination at each attempt.

a) **Structured oral examination** – consisting of 3 x 20-minute examinations covering the following subjects:

- Lids, Oculoplastics and Anterior Segment
- Posterior Segment
- Neurology, Motility and General Medicine

The principal aims of the structured oral examinations are to assess:

- The application of knowledge to clinical situations
- Reasoning power and problem-solving ability
- Decision-making
- The ability to communicate information and ideas
- The ability to manage common acute medical emergencies

There is no change to the format or aims of the structured oral examination. The only change is the method of delivery which will be via MS Teams.

b) **Clinical examination** – consisting of:

- i. 4 x 12-minute stations covering the following subjects:
 - Anterior Segment Disorders
 - Posterior Segment Disorders
 - Neuro-ophthalmic and Ocular Motility Disorders
 - Oculoplastic and Lid Disorders
- ii. 2 x candidate submitted videos, of maximum 5 minutes' duration each, on the following subjects:
 - Confrontation Visual Field Assessment
 - Cranial Nerves Examination for Cranial Nerves 1 to 8

The clinical examination will now consist of a series of video assessment stations rather than the examination of real patients. Each candidate will be presented with two videos in each of the above four stations. The purpose of the clinical examination remains the same as face-to face delivery; to ensure that the candidate is able to demonstrate clinical findings and to appreciate and attach due significance to clinical symptoms and signs. The candidate is expected to communicate effectively with the examiner and to discuss the clinical findings and the appropriate management for each case. These stations will be marked in the same manner as if a real patient was present.

In addition to the four stations detailed above, candidates are required to submit two videos prior to the examination, by the published deadline date, in order to demonstrate skills of patient

examination technique and communication. Each video should not exceed 5 minutes' duration. These videos will be marked by a pair of examiners, using the same marking scheme as for the four stations listed above. Acceptable patients/volunteers include hospital colleagues or family members.

Videos can be filmed using a smartphone or other digital device. Further guidance is available on the website in the document 'Video Submission Candidate Guidance'.

It is the responsibility of candidates to ensure they submit two videos by the deadline.

In order to pass the Part 3 examination, it remains that candidates are required to achieve a pass in the clinical component – see 'Candidate Guidance and Information' for further details.

Section 9 Proof of Identity

Candidates will be required to show proof of identity to each examination. Proof of identity must be an official document, such as a current passport or driver's licence that includes the candidate's name, signature and photograph

For the purposes of visual identification, any candidate sitting any examination may be required to remove any clothing and/or other item which covers all or part of the candidate's face. The College and examination invigilators will observe sensitivity in the visual identification of candidates.

Section 11 Improper Conduct by Examination Candidates

In the case of improper conduct of an examination candidate, the College may impose a penalty relating to the candidate's eligibility for the relevant or future examinations.

If a candidate is found to have acted improperly, their name may be reported to their national authority. The College may also decide that a candidate should not be allowed to proceed further with the examination or, having passed the examination, may not be admitted to Fellowship according to their own statutes and regulations in cases where serious misconduct not related to the examination is judged to make the person unfit to become a Fellow of the College.

Candidates should note that by virtue of applying to sit an examination they are deemed to have understood and agreed to respect and abide by all relevant regulations, including this Code of Conduct:

1. Candidates must ensure they have successfully tested the examination platform prior to the start of their examination. Candidates are expected to take responsibility for testing their equipment ahead of the examination with any guidance issued by the College or platform provider.
2. Candidates who log on after the scheduled start time may not be admitted entry to the exam
3. The identification process for the assessment will be specified in the candidate instructions. Any candidate who does not fulfil this requirement may be refused entry to the examination.
4. Candidates are not permitted to give or receive any third party help or support during the examination period.

5. Candidates are not permitted to communicate with any third party (other than for administrative activities directly related to the assessment) whether by mobile phone, tablet or other electronic device during the examination period.
6. Candidates are not permitted to share their Microsoft Teams link, or any other information associated with the delivery platform at any time.
7. Candidates are confirming by submitting the required responses that all the material is entirely their own work and they wish this to be taken into account for the examination.
8. Candidates are expected to take responsibility for the proper and timely submission of all examination material within the allocated examination time.
9. Candidates are not permitted to refer to any other reference material during the examination (e.g. books, study notes, websites). All material will be provided at the start of the examination time.
10. Should candidates experience a technical issue during the exam they must report this following the procedural notes provided for the examination. Failure to do so may mean that assistance cannot be provided and that examination time may be lost.
11. If a candidate is ill during the examination, they should report this at the earliest opportunity using the contact details provided in the procedural notes provided for the examination.

May 2021