



## NEUROSURGERY ANATOMY EXAMINATION INFORMATION AND RULES FOR APRIL 2022

### 1.0 GENERAL EXAMINATION INFORMATION

- 1.1 The Examination will be a single paper with 60 multiple choice neurosurgery anatomy questions (previously 70 questions).
- 1.2 The Examination will run for 100 minutes.
- 1.3 The recommended reading is Last's Anatomy, Regional and Applied, 9th Edition, 1998 (reprinted 2003) – McMinn R.M.H., Churchill Livingstone.
- 1.4 The Examination will continue to use two different types of multiple-choice questions being:
  - a) Type 1, which has a statement and four possible true-false answer stems. Applicants respond to each of the four answer stems as either true or false.
  - b) Type 2, which has a statement and four possible answer stems. There is an answer key which has five options. Applicants select a single letter from the key. The answer key for the Type 2 questions has been modified. The options will now range from certain combinations of answer stems being correct to all answer stems being correct or incorrect. The revised key is shown in the example questions below.
- 1.5 Each Type 1 question will be worth 4 marks (one for each of the four stems in the question). The Examination will have 20 Type 1 questions (previously 35). This equals 80 of the 240 marks during the Examination.
- 1.6 Each Type 2 question will be worth 4 marks. The Examination will have 40 Type 2 questions (previously 35). This equals 160 of the 240 marks during the Examination.

### 2.0 EXAMPLE OF TYPE 1 QUESTIONS

For each Type 1 question; the applicant must provide a true or false response for each of the four answer stems. Three example questions are provided below.

Example question 1: The foramen rotundum

- A. opens into the pterygopalatine fossa
- B. transmits the accessory meningeal artery
- C. transmits the maxillary division of the trigeminal nerve
- D. lies medial to the anterior clinoid process

Example question 2: The zygomatic bone articulates with the

- A. frontal bone
- B. temporal bone
- C. maxilla
- D. greater wing of the sphenoid

Example question 3: Medial relations of the medial pterygoid muscle include the

- A. tensor veli palatini muscle
- B. superior constrictor of the pharynx
- C. pharyngotympanic tube
- D. lingual nerve

### **3.0 EXAMPLE OF TYPE 2 QUESTIONS**

For Type 2 questions; each question has a statement and four possible answer stems. There is an answer key which has five options. Applicants select a single letter from the key. Three example questions are provided below.

The answer key is:

- A. 1 is the only correct response
- B. 2 and 4 are the only correct responses
- C. 1, 2 and 3 are the only correct responses
- D. All responses are correct
- E. All responses are incorrect

Example question 1: The trigeminal ganglion

- 1. receives blood supply from the accessory meningeal artery
- 2. lies partly in the dural wall of the cavernous sinus
- 3. is bathed partly by cerebrospinal fluid
- 4. lies completely in Meckel's cave

Example question 2: Structures which pass between the external and the internal carotid arteries include

- 1. the hypoglossal nerve
- 2. the glossopharyngeal nerve
- 3. a portion of the parotid gland
- 4. the stylopharyngeus muscle

Example question 3: The dorsal cutaneous branch of the ulnar nerve

- 1. normally passes superficial to the tendon of flexor carpi ulnaris
- 2. supplies the dorsum of the ulnar one and a half or two and a half fingers proximal to the nail bed
- 3. consists of fibres from C7 root
- 4. is a dorsal relation of the triquetrum

### **4.0 EXAMINATION CONDUCT RULES**

- 4.1 Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time of your Examination.
- 4.2 When you are seated, do not open the Examination Booklet until instructed to do so.
- 4.3 Ensure any electronic devices in your bag are turned off completely. You will not be permitted to have any materials on your Examination desk except for a drink bottle, the official Examination documents (which will be provided) and your pen.
- 4.4 The time allocated for reading and writing of answers is 100 minutes. There is no additional reading time.
- 4.5 Please write in pen only.

- 4.6 Please write your name on all three pages of the Answer Sheet prior to the commencement of the Examination.
- 4.7 If you need assistance at any time, please raise your hand. Please note invigilators cannot provide any clarification on any question within the Examination.
- 4.8 You will not be permitted to leave the Examination room within the first 30 minutes or the final 15 minutes. If you finish early, raise your hand.
- 4.9 At the conclusion of the Examination, place your pen down and remain in your seat until the invigilator gives you permission to leave.
- 4.10 You must not remove any materials from the Examination room, including any notes you take.
- 4.11 Applicants may bring into the Examination room a clear bottle of water and pens. Food may only be brought into the Examination room if it is needed for medical reasons.
- 4.12 Applicants must bring photo identification to the Examination.
- 4.13 The following are deemed to be unauthorised materials:
- a) Textbooks
  - b) Study notes and other study materials
  - c) Any electronic devices including calculators
  - d) Mobile phones
  - e) Pencil cases
  - c) Notes of any kind including those written on any material, on the applicant's body or anywhere else
  - d) Blank paper
  - e) Any other item or material that may cause disruption or provide applicants with an unfair advantage
- 4.14 Any unauthorised materials brought to the Examination venue must be kept in a closed bag. Any electronic devices in the closed bag must be switched off completely (not on silent or vibrate). The closed bag must be placed under the applicant's chair or at a location instructed by the invigilator and must not be opened at any time after entering the Examination room.
- 4.15 The invigilator will check Examination desks for unauthorised materials and, if found, will ask the applicant to place them in their closed bag or on the floor.
- 4.16 The invigilator will confiscate unauthorised materials if it appears that they are being used improperly. Any items which have been confiscated will, in most instances, be returned to the applicant at the conclusion of the Examination. However, the invigilator may retain any confiscated items for a further period of time if they consider that such item(s) may be relevant in proceedings relating to academic misconduct.
- 4.17 The invigilator will report cases of alleged misconduct relating to unauthorised materials to the Board.
- 4.18 Personal possessions at the Examination venue are at the applicant's own risk and the Board is unable to provide reimbursement for any items lost or damaged during the Examination.
- 4.19 The Board will investigate all reports of breaches and malpractice. All investigations will be carried out with due process and procedural fairness.
- 4.20 If a breach is established the applicant may be withdrawn from the selection process.
- 4.21 Depending on the seriousness of the breach, the applicant may be prohibited from making future applications to the Surgical Education and Training Program in Neurosurgery.