

Standing Committees

Examination Committee's Report

Chairman	Dr. CHIU Man-chun
Hon. Secretary	Prof. NG Pak-cheung
Members	Prof. FOK Tai-fai
	Dr. IP Lai-sheung, Patricia
	Prof. LAU Yu-lung
	Dr. LEE Wai-hong
	Dr. LI Chi-keung
	Dr. YOUNG Wan-yin, Betty

1. Examination Committee Meetings

Four Examination Committee Meetings were held in 2003 (till October). The Coordinators for different examinations were: Prof. T F Fok & Dr. LI Chi Keung for Exit Assessment, Dr. M.C.Chiu, Prof. Y L Lau, Dr. W H Lee & Prof. P C Ng for Joint MRCPCH / Intermediate Examination and Dr. Patricia Ip & Dr. Betty Young for DCH. For this year, there were a total of 10 examinations / assessments held, including three Part I A & B Examinations, three Part II Written Examinations, two Part II Clinical Examinations, and two Exit Assessments, and 1 DCH Clinical Examination.

2. Joint Intermediate / MRCPCH Examinations

Since January this year, the Part I examination consisted of two parts, A & B. Part IA corresponded to the previous DCH Written Examination, and Part IB the previous Part I Examination. Passing Part IA entitled candidates to take the DCH Clinical Examination, and passing Part IB entitled candidates to take the Part II Examination (previously called Part II Written Examination). The Part II Clinical Examination was called Clinical Examination from November 2004.

Results

Part IA & IB Examination (Jan 2004)

	<i>Pass /attendance</i>	<i>Pass rate</i>
IA & IB	22 / 33	67 %
IA only	20 / 30	67 %

Part I Examination (May 2004)

IA & IB	0 / 4	0 %
IA only (DCH)	25 / 41	61%
IA only (membership)	4 / 5	80%
IB only (membership)	2 / 6	34 %

Part I Examination (September 2004)

IA & IB	0 / 2	0 %
IA only (DCH)	14 / 32	44 %
IA only (membership)	1 / 2	50%
IB only (membership)	1 / 4	25%

Part II (Written) (Dec 2003) 10 / 13 77%

Part II (Written) (Apr 2004) 13 / 17 77%

Part II (Written) (Aug 2004) 10 / 13 77%

*Part II Clinical Examination (Feb 2004)** 8 / 18 45%

*Clinical Examination (Nov 2004)** pending pending

**Examiners for February Clinical Examination at Prince of Wales and Queen Elizabeth Hospital included Dr. Colin Campbell, Dr. Thomas Marshall, Dr. Frances Ackland, Dr. Noel Murphy, Prof. Rita Sung, Dr. Patricia Ip, Dr. Betty Young, Dr. W H Lee, Dr. SN Wong, Dr. NS Tsoi. Examiners for November 2004 Clinical Examination at Queen Mary Hospital and Queen Elizabeth Hospital included: Dr. Peter Todd, Dr. Martin Brueton, Dr. Duncan Cameron, Dr. Anupam Shrivastava, Prof. YL Lau (Host examiner), Prof. Louis Low, Dr. KT So, Dr. NS Tsoi, Dr. CK Li (Host Examiner), Dr. WH Lee, Prof. TF Fok, Dr. Alex Chan, Prof. PC Ng, Dr. YM Ng,*

From November 2004, the Clinical Examination took a new format consisting of 10 stations in a circuit that candidates needed to go through, including 2 Communication stations, 1 Consultation & Management station, Video Scenario station, 5 clinical stations (CVS, Abdomen, Neurology, Respiratory & Others) and a development station. The circuit was timed and structured with each station testing different aspects of a candidate's ability and clinical skill.

Before introducing the new clinical examination, a pilot examination was conducted in February 2004 in Princess Margaret Hospital; and in October, Dr. Colin Campbell, a senior member in the UK Examination Board was invited to conduct training for the new examination, briefing various people including examiners, organizers and candidates about the examination.

As the new examination had a greater demand for the number of examiners, new examiners were recruited and trained. When all examiners had finished with observing the examination, the total pool of examiners would come up to 27.

The Memorandum of Understanding between UK College and our College was due to be renewed.

3. Exit Assessment

Two Assessments were conducted. One in December, one in June. Both were held in the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine. Results were as follows:-

<i>Exit Assessment (Dec 2003)**</i>	11 / 12	92%
<i>Exit Assessment (June 2004)</i>	10 / 10	100%

**Assessors for Exit Assessment in Dec 2003 included: Prof. TF Fok, Prof. Tony Nelson, Dr. KY Chan, Prof. Rita Sung, Prof. PC Ng, Dr. KF Huen, Prof. L Low, Dr. WH Lee, Dr. SN Wong, Dr. Patricia Ip, Dr. Betty Young, Dr. FT Yau.

Assessors for Exit Assessment in June 2004 included: Dr. MC Chiu, Dr. Alex Chan, Dr. Li Chi Kong, Dr. CB Chow, Dr. FT Yau, Dr Li Chi Keung, Prof. YL Lau, Dr. KT So, Dr.KF Huen, Prof. Louis Low, Dr. NS Tsoi, Dr. SN Wong.

The Assessment took the form of a viva which consisted of 4 parts, namely Professional competence, Critical Appraisal of Papers, Service Related Issues & Discussion of submitted Dissertations.

The number of dissertations to be submitted by each candidate had been adjusted to three, and it was decided that starting from June 2005, it would be reduced to two with amendments of the requirements regarding authorship and contents, and until December 2007, existing guidelines can still apply.

4. Diploma of Child Health

The written part of the Examination had been re-structured and incorporated into the Part I Examination as Part IA. Application for the November Clinical examination was over subscribed and quota was limited to 30. United Christian Hospital and Pamela Youde Nethersol Eastern Hospital served as centers.

In addition to the increased number of examinations being held by our College, it was also a year of change for the examinations, especially those jointly held with Royal College of Paediatrics & Child Health. DCH Written and Part I were amalgamated and the Part II Clinical adopted a new format which needed learning and training for examiners, organizers and candidates. Much effort was put to ensure satisfactory organization, adapting to the new format. The change was made to go for a more structured and fair examination.

Dr. CHIU Man-chun
Chairman, Examination Committee