SAUDI BOARD RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM

NEUROSURGERY

Promotion Examination

Written Examination Format:

- A written examination shall consist of one paper with not less than 100 MCQs with a single best answer (one correct answer out of four options). Up to 10% unscored items can be added for pretesting purposes.
- The examination shall contain type K2 questions (interpretation, analysis, reasoning and decision making) and type K1 questions (recall and comprehension).
- The examination shall include basic concepts and clinical topics relevant to the specialty.
- Clinical presentation questions include history, clinical finding and patient approach. Diagnosis and investigation questions; include the possible diagnosis and diagnostic methods. Management questions; including treatment and clinical management, either therapeutic or nontherapeutic, and complications of management. Materials and Instruments questions; including material properties, usage, and selection of instruments and equipment used. Health maintenance questions; include health promotion, disease prevention, risk factors assessment, and prognosis.

Passing Score:

The trainee's performance is assessed in each of the evaluation formulas according to the following scoring system:

Score	Less than 50%	50% – 59.4%	60% - 69.4%	More than 70%
Description	Clear Fail	Borderline Fail	Borderline Pass	Clear Pass

1. To upgrade the trainee from a training level to the next level, she/he must obtain at least a Borderline Pass in each evaluation form.
2. The program director may recommend to the local supervision committee to request the promotion of the trainee who did not meet the previous promotion requirement according to the following:
    A. In case that the trainee gets a **Borderline Fail** result in one of the evaluation forms, the remaining evaluation forms must be passed with **Clear Pass** in at least one of them.
    B. In case that the trainee gets a **Borderline Fail** result in two of the evaluation forms to a maximum, provided they do not fall under the same theme (Knowledge, Attitude, Skills). The remaining evaluation forms must be passed with **Clear Pass** in at least two of them.
    C. The promotion must be approved in this case by the scientific council for the specialization.

Blueprint Outlines:

No.	Section	Percentage
	Clinical and Operative Neurosurgery	
1	Neurovascular	10%
2	Neuro-oncology	10%
3	Cranial Trauma	10%
4	Pediatric Neurosurgery	10%
5	Spine	10%
6	Infection	5%
7	Functional Neurosurgery	5%
8	Peripheral Nerve	5%
9	General Neurosurgical Principles/ Neurosurgical Approaches/ Adjuvant Therapies	5%
	Basic Neurosciences and Practice related topics	
10	Neuro-Anatomy / Neurosurgical Anatomy	10%
11	Neuropathology & Molecular Biology/ Neuroradiology & Diagnostic Approaches	10%
12	Pathophysiology/ Neurophysiology/ Neurology	5%
13	Neurocritical & General Care/ Pharmacology/ Neuro-Anesthesia	5%
	Total	**100%**

Notes:

- Blueprint distributions of the examination may differ up to +/-5% in each category.
- Percentages and content are subject to change at any time. See the SCFHS website for the most up-to-date information.
- Research, Ethics, Professionalism, and Patient Safety are incorporated within various domains.

Suggested References:

1. Youman's Neurological Surgery, Latest Edition
2. Schmidek and Sweet: Operative Neurosurgical Techniques.
3. Handbook of Neurosurgery by Mark Greenberg.
4. Neuropathology: A Reference Text of CNS Pathology: David Ellison and Seth.
5. Barr's The Human Nervous System by John Kiernan.
6. WHO Classification of Tumours of the Central Nervous System.
7. The International Agency for Research on Cancer.
8. Rhoton's Cranial Anatomy and Surgical Approaches by Albert Rhoton.

Patient Safety + Professionalism and Ethics References:

1. 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.
2. Essentials of Patient Safety, SCFHS, Latest Edition.

Crash Courses:

Outline of each course including suggested reading references given by the provider.

Note:

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 solely from these sources.