



AMSPAR

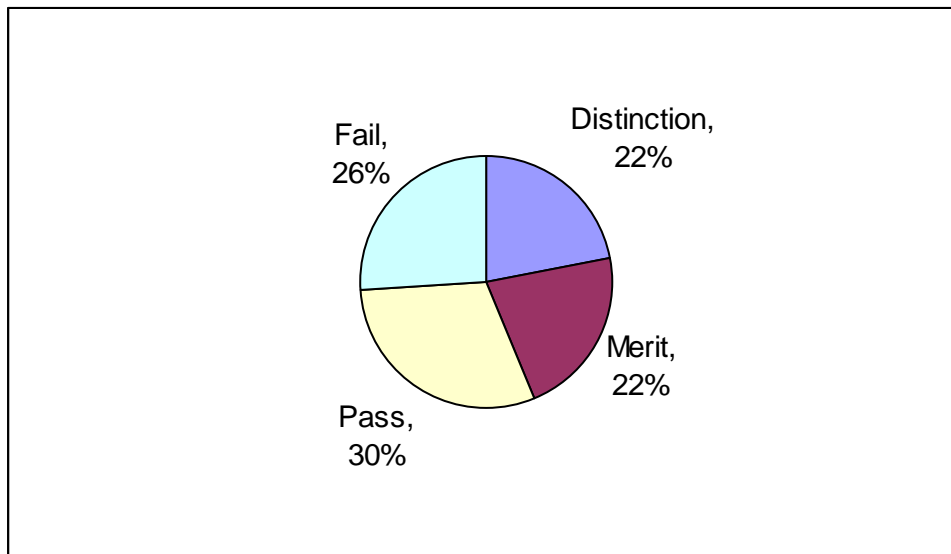


## February 2011 series – Examiner's report

4415-02-300 - Level 3 Certificate in Medical Terminology

4419-02-330 - Level 3 Diploma for Medical Secretaries

### Overall Performance



### Areas of good performance

There were some excellent candidates who gained very high marks in this examination. They demonstrated a high level of competence, showing good understanding of the medical terms by giving clear explanations in their answers. Both tutors and students are to be congratulated for this achievement.

Question 4: The majority scored well on this question although number 5 and number 7 were least well known.

Question 5 and 6: Overall, these were well answered by the majority of candidates. These questions require rote learning from a list provided by C&G in the specification guidelines.

## Areas for development

There were a few very poor papers demonstrating a lack of basic knowledge and understanding. Spelling was poor and these candidates failed to demonstrate an understanding of the required medical terms. This gave an indication of lack of knowledge of medical context or of the body.

Question 1 and 7: These questions showed the general candidates' ability, as they require an understanding of the terms for translation. There were many answers, which appeared to be guessed, showing no relation to the context of the passage to be translated. 'Myeloma' was wrongly translated as a tumour of the spinal cord by many of the candidates. CT and MRI caused problems for many, despite these abbreviations being widely used in the medical field.

Question 2 and 3: As usual question 2 produced many incorrect answers, although several candidates achieved full marks. Unfortunately, the weaker candidates achieved very poor scores for this important question, which requires understanding and cannot be answered by rote learning. Poor spelling lost marks in many papers. A lack of understanding of the use of the combining vowel by some candidates was apparent.

## Medical terms least known

Glomerulus	syndrome	pharyngitis	mononucleosis	myeloma	necrosis
Rectocele	paronychia	psychology	prophylaxis	pyrogenic	cellulitis
Acromegaly	occipital	hydrocephalus	aneurysm	subarachnoid	
auto-	supra-	menisco-	-lysis	-ism	

## Abbreviations

C&S	COLD	EEG	P	od	CT	MRI
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## Recommendations

Read the paper carefully. Candidates who do not read the questions properly make silly mistakes. Many candidates confused 'pyrogenic' with 'pyogenic'. There were many careless errors made, which lose candidates marks. Marks are awarded for the correct spelling of medical terms. If the English answers are not correct in the spelling, marks are not deducted providing the meaning given by the student is clear. In question 6, where the word part is given in the answer, it is necessary to give a further explanation in order to demonstrate understanding eg. 'urethro-the urethra the tube from the bladder to the outside of the body' or a similar explanation.

Some candidates continue to give semantic answers, when translating medical terms. The literal meaning is not necessarily the proper meaning of a medical word and by doing this, candidates show a lack of knowledge or understanding of what is required. A basic knowledge of the body is essential in order to understand medical terminology and its application. The recommended text- books provide assistance with this requirement. Medical terminology is in context and appropriate answers show understanding of this. Accuracy is vital in medical work.

**Tips**

Keep reading the questions.

Make sure that you have attempted all parts of the paper.

Practice spellings until is perfect.

**Additional comments**

All candidates from a couple of centres did extremely well showing that tutors had covered the entire syllabus to a satisfactory level.