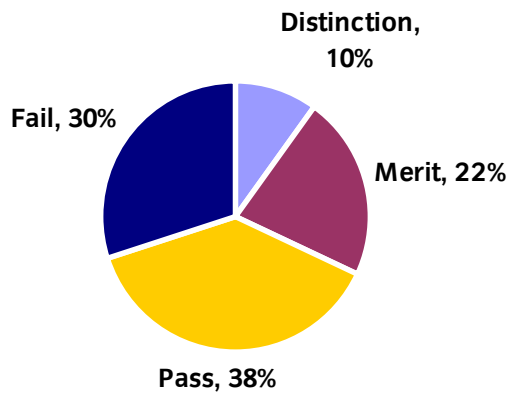


May 2010 Series – Examiner’s report

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 a few excellent candidates who showed a wide knowledge and understanding of medical terms and their usage who achieved very high marks. They gave full explanations in their answers and demonstrated ability across the whole examination paper.

Question 1 -The majority of candidates scored well on this question although terms 10, 12 and 14 were least well known.

Questions 4, 5 & 6 - These were well answered by the majority of candidates.

Areas for improvement

Question 2 - Although there were a few excellent answers, many candidates failed to show sufficient knowledge to obtain more than 30% in this question. Some answers demonstrated a purely semantic approach producing manufactured medical terms, which are not used in the medical field. Students should be taught medical terminology using examples of real medical terms within a medical context. Too many candidates are simply joining word parts together without any understanding of the correct terms for genuine medical conditions. Although many terms may be produced in this way, others being produced do simply not exist. This is where a thorough knowledge of the subject by the tutor is so essential.

Question 3 & 7 - These questions produced difficulty for numerous weaker candidates. There is obvious evidence of simply rote learning by many candidates, which unfortunately fails to achieve the correct explanation. The context of question 7 should assist those candidates who have a deeper knowledge of medical terms and conditions.

Medical terms least known

Prostate	perineum	prophylactic	haematuria		
Menorrhagia	ureterotomy	iatrogenic	ovarian	arthrodesis	primigravida
Myopia	salpingitis	pleurisy	stertorous	varicose	auscultation
Plantar	dysplasia	enzymes	infarct	radiology	asystole
post mortem					
Ad-	neo-	pyelo-	-phylaxis	-ism	-trophy

Abbreviations

ERCP	CAD	PCOS	ESR	BP	od	CPR
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Recommendations and tips

Take care to read the paper carefully. Candidates who do not read the question properly make silly mistakes. Marks are awarded for correct spelling of medical terms. If the English answers are not correct in the spelling, marks are not deducted providing the meaning is clear. 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 any real knowledge or understanding of what is required. Some knowledge of the body is essential in order to understand medical terminology and its application. Tutors require a sound working knowledge of the subject in order to give correct tuition to their students. Medical terminology is in context and appropriate answers show understanding of this.