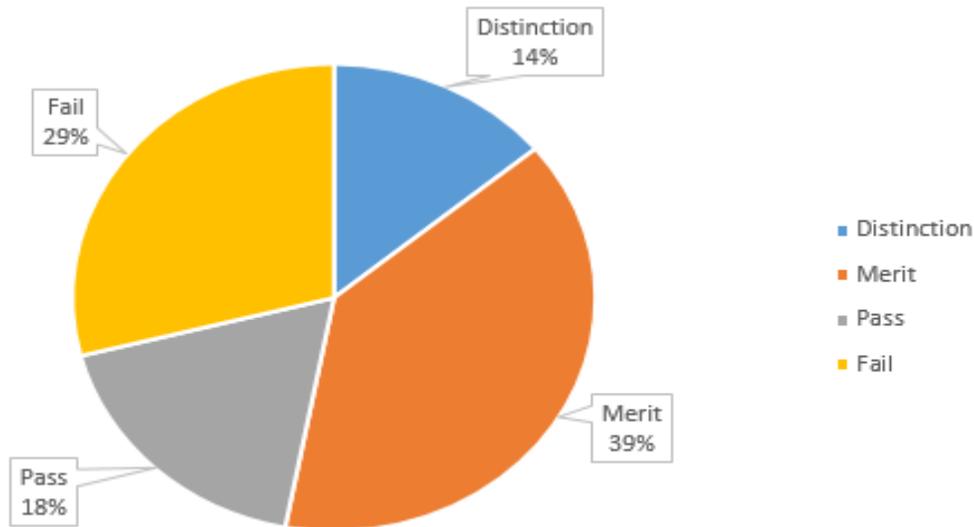




AMSPAR

5519-330 - Level 3 Certificate in Medical Terminology

Examiner's report - November 2015 series



The pass mark range for this examination is 70%. However, as each examination paper is unique there can be slight variations of difficulty from series to series – which means that students are required to gain either more or fewer raw marks to compensate and to gain a pass.

General Comments

Standards varied widely in this examination. They varied from good to very poor. There were small batches of papers from a variety of centres.

Areas of good performance

Question 5 & 6

These questions were fairly well answered by the majority of candidates despite some careless mistakes by some. These questions require rote learning from a list provided by C&G in the specification guidelines.



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Areas for improvement

Unfortunately there were a few very poor papers demonstrating a lack of basic knowledge and understanding. Spelling of both medical terms and English was poor and these candidates failed to demonstrate an understanding of the required medical terms.

Questions 1, 3 & 7

These questions showed the general ability of the candidates, as they require an understanding of the terms. The standard of answers varied tremendously between candidates with many failing to demonstrate any understanding of the terms with others giving excellent answers. Many candidates failed to give enough explanation to gain all marks available.

Question 2

This question 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. It was astonishing that many candidates showed no knowledge of the term for surgical removal of the breast despite this term being in general circulation amongst the public. Poor spelling lost marks in many papers. As usual the correct use of the combining vowel was not understood by some candidates.

Question 4

Standards varied considerably in this question which involved common terms denoting areas of the body. Few candidates achieved over 60% for this question

Medical terms least known

Hyperperistalsis,	diarrhoea	oropharynx	erythema	syncope	conjunctival
Encephalopathy	nystagmus	radiology	hypovolaemia	acromegaly	Psychiatry
keratitis	pyrogenic	paraesthesia	neurone	ultrasound	Cryo
xantho-	procto-	-ia	-osis		

Meanings

Surgical removal of the breast	examination of the first part of the small intestine with a lighted instrument
vomiting blood	

Abbreviations

PCV GI INR K ac



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Recommendations and tips

Take care to read the paper carefully. Many careless errors occur which lose candidates marks. Guidelines provided by C&G give valuable advice to centres and candidates benefit from being provided with the lists of various word parts etc.

Avoid poor writing, crossing out and unclear answers.

A basic knowledge of the body is essential in order to understand medical terminology and its application. The literal meaning of a term is often incorrect and candidates need to understand this. The recommended text- books provide assistance with this requirement. Tutors require a very sound working knowledge of the subject in order to give correct tuition and guidance to their students. Medical terminology is in context and appropriate answers show understanding of this. Accuracy is vital in medical work.