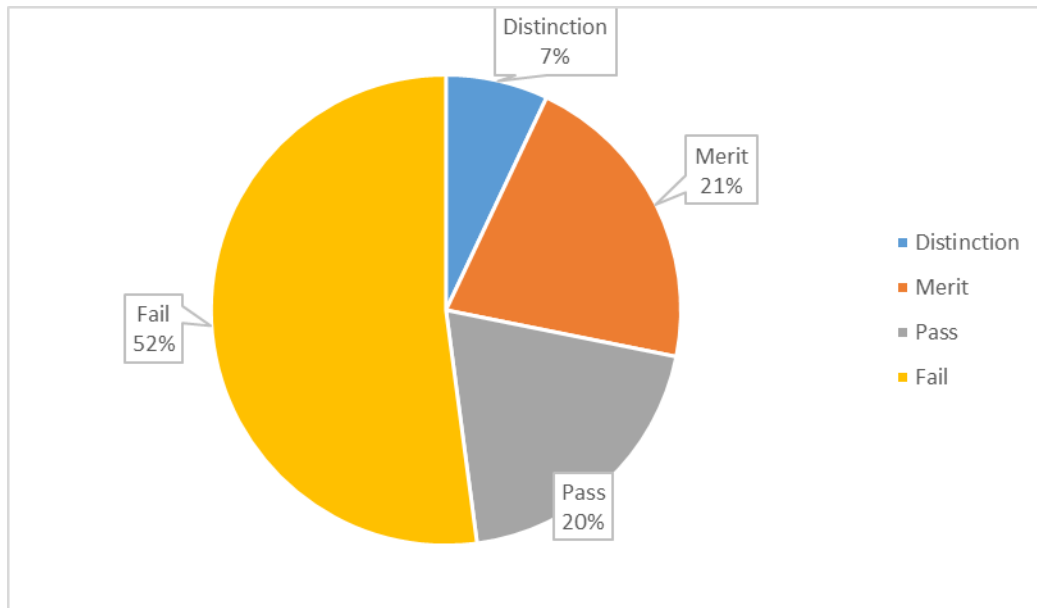




AMSPAR

**5528-265 - Level 2/3 Award in Medical Terminology**

**Examiner's report – June 2017**



*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**

Centres standards varied considerably, varying from many that were excellent to a few very poor, showing a wide variation between centres.



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### **Areas of good performance**

#### Question 1

This question posed no problems for the more able candidates. All the words given were taken from a prescribed list and only required rote learning. The main difficulties were ptosis and ilio.

#### Question 3

In this question the written word aids memory and the small number of terms used in each part makes the question very easy although the use of distracters tempers this a little. The most mistakes were made with encephalitis.

#### Question 5

This was also generally well answered by many candidates with several candidates gaining full marks. As usual, some candidates gained good marks here even though their knowledge was poor concerning most other areas of the paper. Weaker candidates found difficulty with POM and ac.

### **Areas for improvement**

#### Question 2

Many candidates were unable to identify common words in this question and showed a complete lack of understanding of their context in relation to the body. The question was poorly answered by a high percentage of candidates. Many candidates failed to explain their answers fully. The main difficulties were polycythaemia, pneumonia and dialysis.

Tutors should teach candidates the correct meaning of the words commonly used in connection with each listed body system. Literal answers are not sufficient in explaining the full correct meaning of some of these terms.

#### Question 4a

This question was very poorly answered with no candidates gaining full marks. Several weaker candidates gained none of the available marks. All the words required in the answers are in common use in the medical field. Marks were often forfeited due to very poor spelling, carelessness in reading the question and the inappropriate use of the combining vowel. Some candidates gave more than one answer to each question and many gave no answers at all.

#### Question 4b

It was worrying how many candidates gave incorrect answers to these medical specialities when the answers only require recall from a very limited given list. Many gave one word answers instead of writing the answer in full and several just rewrote the medical term given in the question. There were many incorrect answers for gynaecology, bariatrics and endocrinology.



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## **Recommendations and Tips**

This was generally a very disappointing group of papers with the overall standard appearing much lower than in previous examinations although this paper was very straightforward and no problems have been reported with it

It appeared that some centres had entered candidates who were clearly totally unprepared for this examination.

Tutors should ensure that students understand word parts and their context in relation to the body. Candidates also need to have a knowledge of the body in order to understand medicine and common procedures. This will help them to avoid making errors in their interpretation and application of terms

Common medical terms relating to each body system in outcome two should also be taught. The recommended text- books cover these requirements.

In order for students to have a good understanding of the subject, tutors need to have a wide working knowledge of medical terminology and its application. Many medical terms have a completely different meaning than the literal interpretation.

Accuracy in this field is essential.

Guidelines for this qualification, are provided by C&G within the specification.