Regulations Relating to the Intercollegiate Specialty Examination in Urology (2015)

(to be read in conjunction with appropriate Guidance Notes for Applicants)

1. The applicant must hold a medical qualification recognised for registration by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom or the Medical Council of Ireland. The applicant must have been qualified for at least six years.

2. The applicant must provide evidence of having reached the standard of clinical competence defined in the Intercollegiate Surgical Curriculum either for the award of the Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) by the General Medical Council Postgraduate Board or for the award of Certificate of Specialist Doctor (CSD) by the Irish Surgical Postgraduate Training Committee (ISPTC). The required standard may have been achieved through training or qualifications, and experience considered together. The passing of the Intercollegiate Specialty Examination alone does not imply that the CCT, CSD (Ireland) or placement on the Specialist Register will be automatic; the Examination will form only part of the evidence required.

3. This evidence must consist of three structured references in the format prescribed by the Joint Committee on Intercollegiate Examinations (JCIE). These references must be completed by the appropriate senior colleagues with direct experience of the applicant’s current clinical practice in the appropriate specialty as defined in the Guidance Notes for Referees.

4. Candidates will have up to a maximum of 7 years to complete the examination process as follows:
   
   Section 1: Candidates will have a two year period from their 1st attempt with a maximum of 4 attempts with no re-entry.
   
   Candidates who have achieved the required standard in Section 1 and have been granted eligibility to proceed to Section 2 the following will apply:
   
   Section 2: Candidates will have a maximum of 4 attempts with no re-entry.

All previous Regulations will be rescinded.
Intercollegiate Specialty Examination in Urology

Guide to the Scope and Format of the Examination

Section 1 will be a written test* composed of a combination of Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ single best answer; 1 from 5) and Extended Matching Item questions (EMI). Each paper will be carefully prepared to cover the curriculum content which can be best assessed in this way. A process of standard setting will then be performed by trained and experienced examiners and this will set the pass mark for the paper.

Candidates must meet the required standard in Section 1 in order to gain eligibility to proceed to Section 2.

Paper 1  110 Single Best Answer [SBA] (2 hours)
Paper 2  135 Extended Matching Items [EMI] (2 hours 30 mins)

Note: Applicable to all Section 1 examinations from 1 January 2021 the format will be as follows:

Paper 1  120 Single Best Answer [SBA] (2 hours 15 mins)
Paper 2  120 Single Best Answer [SBA] (2 hours 15 mins)


Section 2 is the clinical component of the examination. It will consist of a series of carefully designed and structured interviews on clinical topics – some being scenario based and some being patient based.

Oral examinations
Eight 20 minute structured clinical scenario sessions as follows:

Session 1 [2 x 20 mins]
Urological oncology [kidney & bladder]
Urological oncology [prostate, testis and penis]

Session 2 [2 x 20 mins]
Paediatric urology
Emergency urology

Session 3 [2 x 20 mins]
Calculi & urinary tract infections
Urological imaging and principles of urological technology

Session 4 [2 x 20 mins]
Bladder dysfunction and gynaecological aspects of urology
BPH and andrology

For further indication of the Examination Scope, candidates should consult the Curriculum as published by the SAC in Urology [www.iscp.ac.uk].

Please note that the Intercollegiate Specialty Board in Urology reserves the right to modify the format of the examination
The Keith Yeates Medal

The above medal may be awarded each year to the most outstanding candidate at the first sitting of Section 2. The winner of this medal will be entitled to a Travelling Fellowship of £2,000 from The Urology Foundation. All awards are made at the discretion of the Board.

A candidate who is an existing Member of one of the four participating Royal Colleges (Edinburgh, England, Glasgow, Ireland) and who is successful in the Intercollegiate Specialty Examination will be promoted to the Fellowship of their college, unless they indicate another preference. Only those who are subsequently accorded and maintain the Fellowship of a College are entitled to use that College’s associated post-nominals.

January 2020