MBBS Year 1 Examination/Assessment 2012/13

In the following pages you will find all the current information on the exams and assessments for Year 1, including a table of dates for each assessment (summative and formative) and information on the content of that assessment. You will also find information in merits, distinctions, prizes and resits. Much of the information is also in your course guides. Numbers of questions stated for each section are **provisional,** as are the dates, so may be subject to change. The assessments in the table are hyperlinked to information outlining what you may expect each assessment to comprise. You should still read through the entire document at some point as there is some unlinked information in there - the aim of the links is just to provide you with easy reference.

MBBS Year 1 Examination/Assessment dates 2012/13

The dates below are currently provisional and may be subject to change.

Students will be advised by email of the detailed arrangements for each set of examinations, including candidate numbers and venues, about 2 weeks before the examinations begin. Maps of the examination venues can be found on the intranet (<https://education.med.imperial.ac.uk/Maps/sitemaps.htm> ). Students must check both the intranet and their email regularly for up-to-date information about forthcoming exams.

You are reminded that, in addition to all summative coursework requirements, all summative examinations (Papers 1 to 3) must be passed before you can proceed to Year 2 of the course. You have a maximum of 2 attempts to do this, a first attempt in April (Paper 2)/June 2013 (Papers 1 & 3), and if necessary a second, resit, attempt in August 2013. Students who fail one or more examinations at resit will normally be required to withdraw from the course. [Those students who have been required to repeat Year 1 are subject to different examination conditions, individually agreed.]

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| **Date** | **Time** | **Event** |
| Tuesday 11 December 2012 | am | Year 1 exams info session, G16, SAFB |
| Wednesday 12 December 2012 | 9.15 am | [Peer Marked Self Assessment](#PMSA) (PMSA), MCD & FCP, G16, SAFB |
| January 2013 | - | Online formative PBL self test ([pre-released case, submission by deadline](#PBLform)) |
| Monday 7 January 2013 | 2 pm – 3.40 pm | [Formative examination](#janform) – written paper (Term 1 Themes), multiple venues |
| *Friday 25 January 2013* | *By 5 pm* | *Results of Formative examination emailed to students from FEO* |
| *Tuesday 29 January 2013* | *12 – 1 pm* | *Formative exam feedback session, SAFB, G16* |
| March 2013 | - | Online formative LCRS self test |
| Friday 1 March 2013 | By 5 pm | Release of case details for  [PBL ICA, Independent Exercise](#PBL) (summative assessment) |
| Friday 15 March 2013 | noon | Deadline for online submission of  [PBL ICA, Independent Exercise](#PBL) (summative assessment) |
| Tuesday 19 March 2013 | 10 am – 11 am | [Society & Health/Epidemiology in class test](#EIP) (summative assessment) |
| Thursday 21 March 2013 | allocated time slots | [Clinical Communication assessment, CX Campus](#CC) (summative assessment) |
| Monday 29 April 2013 | 10 am – 12.15 pm | [Paper 2 MCD (summative examination)](#MCD) |
| Monday 10 June 2013 | 10 am – 11.40 am | [Paper 1 Section 1 LSS (summative examination)](#LSS) |
| Tuesday 11 June 2013 | 10 am – 11.30 am | [Paper 1 Section 2 LSS (summative examination)](#LSS) |
| Wednesday 12 June 2013 | 10 am – 11.15 am | [Paper 3 LCRS (summative examination)](#LCRS) |
| *Friday 12 July 2013* | *By 5 pm* | *Results of summative examinations available to students via self-service portal. You will receive access instructions from Registry. If you require assistance regarding results access please email Registry directly:* [*registry.support@imperial.ac.uk*](mailto:registry.support@imperial.ac.uk) |
| **[Resit Exam/Assessment Dates](#resit)** | |  |
| Monday 12 August 2013 | 10 am – 12.15 pm | Paper 2 MCD (resit summative examination) |
| Tuesday 13 August 2013 | 2 – 3.15 pm | Paper 3 LCRS (resit summative examination) |
| Wednesday 14 August 2013 | 2 – 3.40 pm | Paper 1 Section 1 LSS (resit summative examination) |
| Thursday 15 August 2013 | 10 – 11.30 am | Paper 1 Section 2 LSS (resit summative examination) |
|  |  |  |
| *September 2013 TBA* | *By 5 pm* | *Results of summative examinations available to students via self-service portal. You will receive access instructions from Registry. If you require assistance regarding results access please email Registry directly:* [*registry.support@imperial.ac.uk*](mailto:registry.support@imperial.ac.uk) |

**Year 1**

**Assessment and examinations 2012/2013**

The examination and assessment procedures at each stage of your course are designed:

* to test whether you have made adequate progress towards acquiring the knowledge, skills and professional attitudes and values needed for competent, effective and caring medical practice;
* to test whether you have established a sound foundation for further clinical and scientific learning;
* to reward particularly good candidates through the award of a Distinction or a Merit.

Your learning in Year 1 of the course is formally assessed by the MBBS Year 1 examinations in April and June and by elements of in-course assessment throughout the year. The marks from these examinations and assessments determine whether you have passed the first year of the course and can proceed to Year 2.

In papers based on several courses, individual questions may integrate material from more than one of the courses covered by the paper. Calculations can be included in any exam question when appropriate and candidates will be provided with calculators at the exam sitting. **All** material identified in the learning objectives of the course guides may be examined, **whether formally taught or not**.

**The Year 1 April summative examination comprises:**

**Paper 2 - Molecules, Cells and Disease** (2 hours 15 mins)

**The Year 1 June summative examinations comprise:**

**Paper 1 - Life Support Systems\*** (Section 1: 1 hour 40 mins, Section 2: 1 hour 30 mins)

**Paper 3 - Life Cycle and Regulatory Systems** (1 hour 15 mins)

*\* LSS comprises 2 sections. You will receive one overall exam mark based on your performance on the whole paper. This mark determines whether you have passed or failed. In the event of a fail you are required to resit the whole paper ie both sections.*

For guidance, the **provisional** format of the April and June examination papers is shown below.

**Paper 1 – Life Support Systems** (Section 1: 1 hour 40 mins, Section 2: 1 hour 30 mins)

*Section 1: Cardiovascular System, Respiratory System, Anatomy of the Thorax*

28 Single Best Answer Questions (SBA) – 35 minutes

3 Extended Matching Questions (EMQ) – 15 minutes

5 Short Answer Questions (SAQs) – 50 minutes

*Section 2: Alimentary System, Urinary System, Skin, Anatomy of the Abdomen & Pelvis*

28 Single Best Answer Questions (SBA) – 35 minutes

3 Extended Matching Questions (EMQ) – 15 minutes

4 Short Answer Questions (SAQs) – 40 minutes

All questions are compulsory. [[BACK]](#LSSret)

**Paper 2 - Molecules, Cells and Disease** (2 hours 15 mins)

*Introduction to cells, nucleic acids & gene expression, metabolism, genetics, cellular organisation of tissues, microbiology, immunology, cell pathology*

36 SBAs – 45 minutes

10 Assertion Reason Questions (ARQs) – 20 minutes

7 SAQs – 70 minutes

All questions are compulsory. [[BACK]](#MCDret)

**Paper 3 - Life Cycle and Regulatory Systems** (1 hour 15 mins)

*Neuroscience & mental health, endocrinology, human life cycle, musculoskeletal*

28 SBAs – 35 minutes

4 SAQs – 40 minutes

All questions are compulsory. [[BACK]](#LCRSret)

**Doctor & Patient (PBL), Foundations of Clinical Practice**

These Themes are summatively assessed by a package of In Course Assessments.

Summative assessment of **PBL** takes place in Term 2. This assessment has 4 components:

1. Attendance and punctuality
2. One-to-one assessment with PBL tutor
3. Written reflection
4. Independent PBL exercise

Components 1, 2 and 3 must be passed but do not generate a quantitative score. Part 4 is marked quantitatively and generates a percentage score. This PBL score will be recorded in your results and will contribute to the calculation of overall Distinctions/Merits in Year 1.

[[BACK]](#PBLret)

The **Foundations of Clinical Practice** Theme is summatively assessed throughout the year, with 4 components contributing equally to an overall FCP percentage score (*Epidemiology in Practice, Society and Health, Clinical Communication, First Clinical Attachment*). This FCP score will be recorded in your results and will contribute to the calculation of overall Distinctions/Merits in Year 1.

*Epidemiology in Practice* and *Society and Health* are assessed in an In Class Test that is carried out under exam conditions. This test is a mixture of SBAs and EMQs with half of the questions derived from the Epidemiology course and half from the Society and Health course.

The Society and Health element will comprise 20 SBAs, the EiP element will comprise 10 SBAs and 2 EMQs. All of the questions are compulsory.

[[BACK]](#EIPret)

*Clinical Communication* will be assessed based on observation and analysis of a recorded consultation between a doctor and a patient followed by a series of short answer questions (all compulsory).

[[BACK]](#CCret)

*First Clinical Attachment* will be assessed based on 4 components weighted as shown below

Component Marks

Reflective e-portfolio 21

Satisfaction survey 8

Module 2 essay 13

Module 3 poster presentation 8 [[BACK]](#EIPret)

**Release of examination results**

All results are released via the Student Self Service system. You will require your login and password. If you require assistance regarding access please email [registry.support@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:registry.support@imperial.ac.uk) Information regarding release dates can be found on the examinations section of the teaching intranet.

**Merits, distinctions and prizes**

If you pass all papers and sections at the first attempt and satisfactorily complete all in course assessment elements you may be eligible for a pass with Distinction or a pass with Merit. These awards are made on the basis of the average percentage score across all 5 Themes assessed in Year 1 (LSS, MCD, LCRS, FCP, PBL). If you receive a minimum of one Distinction and one Merit in Years 1 and 2 you will be eligible for the award of a Distinction in Medical Sciences on completion of the MBBS. In addition, a number of Prizes may be awarded to students with the best achievements in Year 1.

Prizes and passes with Distinction/Merit are not awarded to students resitting any of the Year 1 examinations/assessments, nor to those students who may be repeating Year 1.

# August summative examinations (Resits)

All components of the Year 1 examinations and assessments must be successfully completed in order for you to proceed to the second year of the course. You will normally have an opportunity in August to resit any examination paper that you failed in April/June. You will not be required to resit any exam paper that you have passed.

The question types and the level of difficulty of the questions on the resit papers are the same as the April/June papers.

Students who fail any examinations at resit will normally be required to withdraw from the course.

All students are expected to liaise with their personal tutors and alert us to any health or personal issues that have affected their exam preparation. If deemed relevant, they must notify the college by making an application for mitigating circumstances.

[[BACK]](#resitret)

# Formative Assessment: feedback about your progress

“Formative” means that the purpose is to give you feedback about your progress, and provide experience of the style of the summative exams and help you identify areas where you may need additional help.

Marks from formative assessments do **not** affect your progress through the course, but a fail mark in a formative assessment is an important warning that you should take action over whatever is preventing you from achieving the required standard. If your performance on any of the formative assessments is poor, you should discuss your academic progress with your Personal Tutor or other member of the Academic Staff to plan your learning more effectively.

Please note: academic honesty is as important in formative assessment as it is in summative assessment. If formative work is found to be plagiarised the penalty tariff will be the same as it is for summative work. It will also count as a first offence under the academic honesty guidelines making any subsequent offence more serious.

In Year 1 there are 4 types of Formative Assessment:

# 1) January Formative examination

Early in January 2013 you will have an on-paper assessment, taken under exam conditions covering the material studied in Term 1. It will consist of a mixture of question types: short answer questions (SAQ), single-best-answer (SBA), extended matching questions (EMQs) and assertion reason questions (ARQ).

You will receive a **report** by e-mail about your performance in the January Formative within 3 weeks of the exam. Feedback is in the form of % scores and word-descriptors for your overall performance, and for various components of the paper.

[[BACK]](#Janformret)

**2)** **Peer-Marking and Self-Assessment (PMSA) sessions**

A PMSA session is planned at the end of the Autumn term. You will do a small set of SAQs, and some SBAs and/or EMQs under quasi-exam conditions. Then you will mark each other's SAQs (peer-mark) under the guidance of an Academic Expert, who will go through and explain the model answer and marking scheme.

You will be able to ask questions. You can take your paper away. Questions and answers will be posted on the Intranet after the session.

The aim is to give you immediate and detailed feedback about SAQs so you can see the level of detail and depth of knowledge that is expected, exactly where your answer is right, and where it is wrong, incomplete, etc., and see how the marking scheme works.

There will be a further on-line PMSA session at the end of the Spring term.

[[BACK]](#PMSAret)

**3) On-line self-tests**

Self-Tests on specific components of the Year 1 course will be available during the year.  It is a good idea to add the link to Self-Tests to your Favorites list. You access the Self-Tests via **Blackboard Learn**. Then click on **"Year 1 - LAPT"**

Do **“Getting Started”** before trying the Self-Tests. In particular, be sure to read about Certainty-Based Marking (CBM) which is used on the Self-Tests. Clicking on “**Self-Tests**” shows the list of the Self-Tests and also “CBM LAPT student report” which is your own personal spreadsheet where the records of your performance on the Self-Tests are automatically listed for you. The Self-Tests are available for you to do in your own time.   
You can repeat these Self-Tests as many times as you like and keep track of your improvement by looking at “CBM LAPT student report”.

When you are doing an exercise each question is marked immediately after you enter your answer and certainty, and for many questions an explanation will be given. Your running-score is shown at the bottom of the screen, and you can enter a comment using the comment button if you think an answer is incorrect, etc.

In addition to the Self-Tests reached via Blackboard Learn, there are many more exercises in **LAPT,** a larger system within which our Self-Tests run. LAPT is found at <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/lapt/> Then click on “exercises” for links to exercises designed for various courses (UCL medicine, for example). To find the Imperial exercises scroll down to the link to Imperial section.

If you have any problems email: [n.curtin@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:n.curtin@imperial.ac.uk)

**4)** **PBL Formative**

There will be a formative PBL in course assessment prior to the summative PBL in course assessment in the Spring term.

[[BACK]](#PBLformret)

**The intranet is the most up-to-date source of information about exams.**

See ‘Frequently Asked Questions’ on Year 1 exams page, and ensure you are familiar with the College policy concerning the conduct of written examinations: <https://education.med.imperial.ac.uk/Policies/conduct.docx>

*Dr Paul Kemp*

*Chair, Year 1 Exams Sub-Board*