Year 2

Assessment and examinations 2012/13

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 the second year of the course is formally assessed by the MBBS Year 2 summative examinations in April/May (Papers 2 & 3) and June (Paper 1), and by elements of in-course assessment throughout the year. The marks from these examinations and assessments, together with a satisfactory Year 2 attachment, determine whether you have passed Year 2 of the course and can proceed to Year 3.

Papers in the Year 2 summative examinations are:

**Paper 1 - Science and Patient** (1 hour 45 mins)

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

**Paper 3 - Life Cycle & Regulatory Systems II** (5 hours: 2 sections of 2½ hours each)\*

*\* LCRS comprises 2 sections of 2½ hours each. 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 each examination paper is shown below. Any major changes to these formats will be advised well before the examination period.

**Paper 1 – Science and Patient** (1 hour 45 mins)

Comprising: water & electrolytes, human form and performance, drugs & the hospitalised patient, nutrition, physiology of infection.

5 Short Answer Questions (SAQs) – 50 minutes

1 Essay from a choice of 2 – 55 minutes

[+ ICA element of 20%]

***Note****: there will be a 5% contribution from the Year 2 Science & Patient examination score to your BSc degree classification in Year 4.*

## **Paper 2 - Molecules, Cells and Disease II** (2 hours)

Comprising: haematology, lab diagnostic methods, microbiology, immunology, cancer.

40 Single Best Answers (SBAs) – 50 minutes

7 SAQs – 70 minutes

All questions are compulsory.

***Note****: in exam questions that give numerical test results e.g. a neutrophil count in haematology, the normal range values will always be included in the question. Therefore, you are not expected to memorise normal range values.*

## **Paper 3 - Life Cycle & Regulatory Systems II** (5 hours: 2 sections of 2½ hours each)

*Section 1: Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Endocrinology, Human Life Cycle*

48 SBAs – 60 minutes

8 Extended Matching Questions (EMQs) – 40 minutes

5 SAQs – 50 minutes

*Section 2:* *Neuroscience & Mental Health, Anatomy of the Limbs, Head, Neck & Spine, Musculoskeletal*

36 SBAs – 45 minutes

9 EMQs – 45 minutes

6 SAQs – 60 minutes

All questions are compulsory

If you pass all papers and sections at the first attempt you may be eligible for a pass with Distinction\* or Merit\*. 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 2.

\* *Not available to students who are repeating the Year or who are resitting examinations.*

**Pass Marks**

The pass mark may be different for each of the Year 2 exams (S&P, MCD, LCRS). The pass mark for any paper will normally be at least 50%. The results you view via the student e-service will reflect the varying pass marks per Theme as appropriate. As an example:

Science and Patient 50 Pass

Molecules Cells and Disease 55 Fail

Life Cycle and Regulatory Systems 54 Pass

# **August/September summative examinations (Resits)**

All components of the Year 2 summative examinations (Papers 1, 2 and 3) must be successfully completed in order for you to proceed to the third year of the course. You will normally have an opportunity in August/September to resit any examination paper that you failed in April/May/June. You will not be required to resit any paper that you have passed (Papers 1, 2 and 3). Students who fail any examinations at resit will normally be required to withdraw from the course.

Please note that 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**.

**Release of examination results**

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

**Student welfare**

Please do discuss your exam preparations with your personal tutor along with any concerns or problems you may be having in the run up to exams. If you have problems contacting your tutor then you may approach the Senior Welfare Tutor, Dr Mike Emerson, directly for advice or guidance. The College expects all students to liaise with their personal tutor.

If you have any health or personal issues that affect your exam preparation you must notify the College by making an application for mitigating circumstances – please see the link on the exams and assessment page of the teaching intranet for details of how to apply. Appropriate medical documentation will be required and you should follow the policy carefully.

**Notes:**

* In examination papers based on several courses, individual questions may integrate material from more than one of the courses covered in the paper and its sections when relevant.
* Where an examination question requires you to list a specific number of examples eg *‘List 3 physiological actions of .…’* you should only list the specified number. There is no benefit in listing more examples than are called for in the question – additional examples will not be marked.
* Students are not permitted to bring their own calculators to the examinations – if a calculator is required it will be provided for you.
* Students should ensure that they are familiar with College policy concerning the conduct of written examinations. Details can be viewed on the intranet at:

 <https://education.med.imperial.ac.uk/Policies/conduct.docx>

*Dr N Martin*

*Chair, Year 2 Examinations Sub-Board*

*Updated: November 2012*