



Royal Australasian College
of Dental Surgeons
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OMS FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

APRIL 2019

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Purpose and scope

To prescribe the process followed by the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons in setting and marking the Oral Maxillofacial Surgery (OMS) Final Examination.

1. Background

The OMS Final Examination is a summative assessment of a trainee's achievement of the learning outcomes of the OMS Curriculum. The examination is designed to assess whether the trainee has the appropriate knowledge and experience to care autonomously for the surgical patient as an OMS consultant.

The Final Examination consists of four sections, including written and *viva voce* (oral) components. The two equally weighted written papers are held over two consecutive days, two (2) to three (3) weeks in advance of the commencement of the oral examinations. Each candidate must sit all sections of the examination on each occasion they present. No credit will be given for sections completed successfully during previous failed examination sittings.

Further detailed information regarding this examination can be found in the Handbook for Accredited Education and Training in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Part E Section 1.

2. Policy Statement

1. Format of the Examination

- 1.1. The OMS Final Examination consists of four sections (written papers, medium cases, surgical anatomy viva and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery vivas).

1.1.1. Written Papers

- Two (2) written papers, each of three hours' duration
- Each paper contains multiple short answer questions

Evidence based medicine is examined and appropriate citations of historical and contemporary research are required

1.1.2. Clinical Examinations

- Six (6) *viva voce* examinations of medium case scenarios, each of 17 minutes duration
- *Viva voce* examinations include a mix of clinical patients and associated investigations

Concurrent with and following the history taking and the clinical examination an examiner will be present. Questions may be asked at any stage during each *viva* examination. Standardised questions are used for all candidates

1.1.3. Surgical Anatomy Viva

- One (1) *viva voce* examination of 15 minutes' duration
- The *viva voce* examination incorporates images of anatomy and case scenarios
- Any area of the body with relevance to Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery may be examined

Identical images and standardised questions are used for all candidates

1.1.4. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Vivas

- Three (3) Viva voce examinations, each of 20 minutes duration
- Each Viva voce examination incorporates images of clinical material or histopathology specimens

Identical images and standardised questions are used for all candidates

2. Preparation of Examination

- 2.1. All material for the written and clinical components of the examination is prepared by the diet's examiners and mapped to the OMS Curriculum learning outcomes.
- 2.2. Examiners have a comprehensive knowledge of the OMS Curriculum and practical patient care and have been selected by the Board of Studies OMS.
- 2.3. A compulsory meeting of all examiners is held on the day preceding the commencement of clinical and *viva voce* examinations, to standardise the format and components of the upcoming examination diet.

3. Examination Passing Standards

- 3.1. To pass the Final Examination a candidate must:
 - Have been deemed eligible for the Final Examination in that year
 - Attempt all four sections in the same examination diet
 - Achieve the passing standard within all proficiencies of the examination
 - Achieve the passing standard within all modules of the examination
- 3.2. The examination passing standard for each of these examinations is set by the relevant examination review panel using formal standard setting methods. The 'passing standard' is reviewed at each examination series and may be adjusted with consideration to differences in the difficulty of examinations and to maintain the standards. The minimum score required to pass may be set by applying an error adjustment to the 'passing standard' score.
- 3.3. As all components of the final examination are blueprinting to curriculum modules and proficiency domains, minimum passing standards may also be set based on the aggregation of these. Thus, candidates must also achieve the passing standard within modules and proficiencies.

4. Notification of Examination Results

- 4.1. The Court of Examiners assesses the marks of all candidates immediately following the last examination session.
- 4.2. Candidates will receive their examination results 2 working days post examination completion.
- 4.3. Candidates will receive their examination results by email.
- 4.4. Failed candidates will receive feedback on their results within 4 weeks following the release of examination results.
- 4.5. Candidates wishing to submit a request for consideration under the Reconsideration, Review and Appeals Policy may do so after the examination feedback has been received.