

Newsletter - October 2019

The European Specialty Examination on Gastroenterology and Hepatology (ESEGH)

The ESEGH

The ESEGH Examination was first introduced in 2014 when there were 50 entries (32 from Europe). In 2019 there were 490 entries (156 from Europe). This substantial increase in entries is due to the Examination being mandated for trainees in several European countries and a significant increase in International candidates. The Examination is one of the largest Physician Specialty Examination in Europe, and is a four-way cooperation between UEMS, The European Board of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, the British Society of Gastroenterology and the Federation of Royal Colleges of the United Kingdom. The UK GMC formally approved the European Examination in January 2018.

Examination format

The ESEGH is a computer-based, multiple-choice test divided into two papers. Candidates are allowed three hours to answer each paper, which comprises 100 items. Each question presents a clinical scenario, with the results of some investigations and perhaps an image or scan, and tests medical knowledge and competency in diagnosis, investigation, management and prognosis. Candidates are asked to choose the best answer from five options. The test is taken on one day in April every year at independently operated assessment centers. The ESEGH runs in most countries in Europe and in many other countries around the world.

Eligibility requirements

There are no entry requirements for the examination.

EU candidates are encouraged to take the examination towards the end of their specialist training.

Curriculum and Knowledge Resources

- Curriculum-The Blue Book-<https://www.eubogh.org/blue-book/>
- Knowledge resources – can be found in the website www.eubogh.org. Also recommended are guidelines from the major gastroenterology and hepatology scientific societies, as well as the UEG education programmes

Performance of candidates – 2019

In 2019, 490 candidates sat for the ESEGH. The group had a mean score of 59.7% (S.D. = 8.7), with a range of 31% to 81%; 141 candidates declared that they are trained in the UK and their scores have a mean of 63.5% and S.D. = 6.7 (range between 45.5% and 81%); 156 candidates sat in European centers other than the UK, their mean score was 61.9% (S.D. = 8.5), with a range of 32.5% to 79.5%.

Why should potential candidates take this examination?

European postgraduate medical assessments will facilitate mobility of medical practitioners throughout the European Union (EU) by assessing specialist knowledge at an agreed EU standard. Furthermore, European examinations will enable benchmarking of candidates against their European colleagues in other EU countries.

However, passing a European postgraduate medical assessment will NOT imply a license to practice. It is only the National Certifying Authority, (NCA) that will be able to provide such a license. Nevertheless, where full NCA recognition of a qualification applies, European postgraduate medical assessments may provide a means for the NCA to determine eligibility for a license to practice.

Some countries (UK, Switzerland, Netherlands, Malta) have mandated passing of the examination, as a necessity to complete specialist training.

The full report will be submitted to UEG Journal

We invite you to check this and other information in our website – www.eubogh.org