

**Palestine Medical Council**  
**General Surgery Board Exams**

**Training Syllabus**

The Palestinian General Surgery Residency Program training syllabus can be reached at the PMC website at this link

[https://www.pmc.ps/cached\\_uploads/download/2018/03/12/general-surgery-residency-syllabus-final-1520841887.pdf](https://www.pmc.ps/cached_uploads/download/2018/03/12/general-surgery-residency-syllabus-final-1520841887.pdf)

**Exams**

1. Part 1 Palestinian Surgical Board exam: taken at the end of year 2 and with satisfactory completion of BSS and BLS needed for entry to the exam. The Board part 1 should be passed before the start of year 3. The exam is Multiple Choice Question (MCQ) format and covers Applied Basic Science.
  
2. Part 2 Palestinian Surgical Board exams: taken after Year 5, reports showing satisfactory completion of years 1-5 of training and a satisfactory logbook needed for entry to the exam.
  - a) MCQ covering relevant areas of general surgery as detailed in the syllabus
  - b) Oral and clinical exam
  
3. Promotional/ progress exams are taken to confirm progress at year 1-2 and year 3-4 – these are MCQ exams set by the Palestine Medical Council and administered by the responsible body.

## **Overview**

The purpose of core training and early years training is to provide trainee surgeons with the essential knowledge and skills common to all surgical specialties. During the early years of training some additional specialty-specific experience and skills will inevitably be obtained. However, Part 1 examination will test knowledge at the level expected of all trainees completing core training irrespective of their chosen specialty.

### **The knowledge required for the examinations**

As a guide, the level of knowledge required to pass the examinations can be obtained by studying the recommended texts listed below. Trainees should have mastery of the subjects outlined in the syllabus to the depth covered within these texts and should be able to make use of that knowledge in the context of surgical practice.

### **List of Basic Textbooks**

The core recommended Clinical textbooks

- 1- Sabiston Textbook of Surgery, 21st Edition - January 8, 2021
- 2- Schwartz's Principles of Surgery, 11th edition
- 3- Current Surgical Therapy, 13th Edition
- 4- Greenfield's Surgery Scientific Principles & Practice

Other suggested textbooks for the basic and clinical sciences as listed in The Palestinian General Surgery Residency Program training syllabus which can be reached at the PMC website at this link

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## **Content Outline**

### **Part 1**

#### **Exam components**

1. Applied Basic Science 50%
2. Principles of Surgery in General 50%

#### **Suggested weight of part 1 exam contents:**

##### **1 – Applied Basic Sciences 50 %**

1. Applied Surgical Anatomy 10-15 %
2. Applied Surgical Physiology 10 %
3. Applied Surgical Pathology 10-15 %
4. Pharmacology as applied to surgical practice 5 %
5. Microbiology as applied to surgical practice 5%
6. Imaging 2-3%
7. Data interpretation and audit 2-3%

##### **2 - Principles of Surgery in General 50%**

1. Common congenital and acquired surgical conditions 10-15%
2. Perioperative management 10%
3. Assessment and management of patients with trauma (including the multiply injured patient), Systemic Response to Injury and Metabolic Support 5- 10%
4. Shock, Fluid and Electrolyte Management of Surgical Patient 5%
5. Haemostasis, Surgical Bleeding, and Transfusion 5%
6. Surgical Infection 5%
7. Burn and Wound Healing 5%

8. Surgical Oncology and Transplantation 5%
9. Surgical Critical Care and Bedside Surgical Procedures 8-10%
10. Principles of pre-operative, Operative, Anaesthesia, and Pain Management 5-8%
11. Surgical Complications 5%
12. Surgical care of children 2-3%
13. Medico-legal aspects of surgical practice, Research, Ethics and Professionalism and Patient Safety 2-3%

## **Part 2**

### **1) MCO paper**

Suggested weight of the exam contents:

- 1- Abdomen (General, Hernia and abdominal wall, Peritoneum, retroperitoneum and soft tissue) 8-10%
- 2- GI and HPB (Upper GI, Small intestine, appendix, lower GI and HPB) 10-15%
- 3- Trauma. 10%
- 4- Surgical complications, critical care, surgical infection, sepsis and shock 10-15%
- 5- Breast and Endocrine 5%
- 6- Principles of minimally invasive surgery and bariatric surgery 5%
- 7- Skin, subcutaneous tissue, Burn and plastic surgery 5%
- 8- Operative principles (Instruments, environment, anesthesia, sutures, .) and perioperative management 5%
- 9- Research, ethics and outcomes in surgery 3-5%
- 10- Surgical subspecialties (Pediatric Surgery, Neurosurgery, Head and Neck, Cardiothoracic, Urology, Vascular) 10-15%
- 11- Oncology and palliative care 3-5%
- 12- Radiology and anesthesia 3-5%
- 13- Communication skills and decision making 3%

## **2) VIVA (Oral) and Clinical Examination (OSCE) Test**

### **Number of stations**

10 stations

### **Contents covered**

The stations are designed to assess the candidate's knowledge, competency and skills (both technical and non-technical skills):

- Understanding disease pathophysiology
- Diagnostic skills (History taking, Identification and interpretation of abnormal test findings, Diagnostic procedures)
- Management skills
- Physical examination skills
- Operative and Procedural skills (Preparing patient for surgery, understanding the operative anatomy, ability to do proper operative assessment, evaluation and decision making and appropriate Utilization of resources)
- Decision making,
- Interpersonal & Communication Skills,
- leadership Promotion, teaching & Learning,
- Professionalism & Ethics
- Cognitive skills and problems solving

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