



Preparation Guide for the Fellowship Exam of the Canadian College of Physicians in Medicine

October 1st, 2023

Introduction

This guide is intended to assist candidates in preparing for the Fellowship exam. The Fellowship exam is a two step process. The first step consists in the submission of the project description, assessment letters and personal statement. The second step consists of a 1h30 oral exam which is composed of a 15-minute presentation of the candidate's project, a 30-minute period of questions on the submitted material followed by 45 minutes of pre-determined questions common to all candidates.

Although this document provides guidance to candidates, it is not meant as a single definitive source of preparation. Every candidate needs to tailor their preparation for their own needs and experience.

General description

The primary objective of the Fellowship exam process is to verify whether a candidate has exhibited leadership and exceptional proficiency in their designated sub-specialty. Candidates are required to showcase their capability in initiating, leading, and successfully concluding a substantial project that holds significant clinical relevance. Furthermore, candidates are expected to possess outstanding communication skills and a comprehensive understanding of their respective sub-specialty.

Submitted material

A detailed description of the submitted material can be found on the web site in the Fellowship application documents section : Fellowship exam documentation requirements.

Exam part I – presentation of project and questions

The first 15 minutes will be the candidate's presentation on the project described in the Fellowship Exam Documentation Requirements. Candidates will be evaluated both on the quality and content of the presentation. Note that this portion of the examination will not be allowed to run overtime. This will be followed by a 30-minute question period. Questions will assess the project, excellence and leadership and will be based on the project and the CV.



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Exam part II – pre-determined questions

The second section of the exam will be a question-and-answer session that is common to all candidates in your specialty. The question topics will include: Radiation Protection (or MRI Safety); Clinical Issues; Emerging Technologies; Legal/Ethical Issues, Cost/Benefit Analysis; and Competing Modalities. You will be asked five questions related to these topics by the examining committee.

Examination Process

The chief examiner will make sure that the examination runs smoothly. The candidates will undergo assessment by an examination committee, comprised of highly knowledgeable Fellows capable of proficiently evaluating Fellowship candidates. A minimum of three examiners will be present during the exam.

One of the examiners will act as the chair throughout the examination process. The chair will welcome the candidate to the exam room, introduce the exam committee members, and provide a brief overview of the exam format. Subsequently, the chair will invite the candidate to begin their presentation.

After the presentation concludes, the chair will invite the examination committee members to question the candidate regarding their presentation, submitted documents, and CV. The chair will then notify the candidate that the general questioning phase will commence, during which each committee member will have the opportunity to ask one of the pre-determined question.

Marking

A detailed description of the marking scheme will be sent to the candidates prior to the exam.