



## ACEM Fellowship Examination Bulletin – August 2017

The College continues to review, refine and enhance its processes for examinations and is very grateful to the many Fellows who contribute their time, energy and expertise to the development and delivery of these, in addition to the assistance they provide trainees with their examination preparation.

Since the last Examination Bulletin, the College has held the Fellowship OSCE in May and July at the Australian Medical Council National Testing Centre (AMC-NTC) in Melbourne. One hundred and thirty-four candidates consisting of two cohorts, each of 67 candidates, sat the OSCE in May and a further 69 candidates in July. The final Fellowship OSCE for 2017 will be held in November, where it is expected that two full cohorts containing the maximum feasible number will be examined.

The College has traditionally held two Fellowship OSCEs per year, but in response to a number of trainees nearing completion times in the training program and the introduction of the regulation relating to a maximum number of 3 attempts at each of the examinations from 2018, the College held an extra Fellowship OSCE sitting in July in 2016 and July 2017. Despite these measures and any future additional examination sittings, if candidate numbers exceed the number of available places at any examination, the College may need to limit the number of candidates accepted, in accordance with Regulation B5.5.3. See <https://acem.org.au/getattachment/7a305730-0c0a-468e-8410-50b1f2220bd5/Section-B-ACEM-Specialist-Training-Program.aspx>

### New Examiners for the Court of Examiners

In response to a call to FACEMs for Expressions of Interest to join the Court of Examiners, 10 new examiners have been appointed to the Court:

Dr Andy Churchman	Dr Matthew Clarke	Dr Darren Costello	Dr Rebecca Day
Dr Karen Greenlees	Dr Hans Hollerer	Dr Dane Horsfall	Dr Kong Liew
Dr Nigel Moore	Dr Paul Labana		

These examiners undertook comprehensive orientation and training activities during the July OSCE, including multiple calibration activities across a variety of domains, clinical scenarios, topics and competencies as well as single and double length stations.

A further call for Expressions of Interest for another 10 examiners has been made and it is expected that training for those selected will be conducted during the November OSCEs.

### Video Recordings from the May Fellowship OSCE

Advantage was taken of the AMC-NTC's ability to video record some OSCE stations during the May OSCE. Video footage from a small number of stations where candidates, examiners and role players gave their written consent, has been pixilated and will be used for future training and calibration purposes for all examiners. Some were used as part of the orientation activities for the new examiners during the July OSCEs.

### Independent OSCE Marking

Independent Marking has been introduced for the Fellowship OSCEs. Previously, where two examiners were involved in marking an OSCE station, a consensus score and rating were given. From the 2017.1 May OSCE, separate marks from each examiner are now utilised, with both sets of marks counting equally to the final score given, including the domain score and the global judgment. This has enabled more independent observations of candidates' performance and allowed examiners more time to write feedback comments for candidates who do/did not perform at the expected level.

### Extra Reading time for OSCE Double Stations

For the three double stations of the July OSCE, the reading time was increased from three to four minutes and the station examination time reduced accordingly from 17 to 16 minutes. It was felt that this would allow candidates more time to prepare for the longer stations and examiners more time to complete candidate feedback.

### **Candidate Feedback**

Written feedback has been provided to all candidates who were unsuccessful in the May OSCE. Feedback includes the final passing score for the relevant examination, the candidate's score below the passing score expressed as a %, the score/rating for each domain for each station, examiner comments and if relevant, whether a candidate had made a significant or serious error or omission. Endeavours to enhance feedback further will continue to be a focus.

### **Marking Centre**

As outlined in a previous bulletin, the College held a Marking Centre for examiners marking the February 2017 Fellowship Written SAQ Examination. A Marking Centre will again be held for examiners marking the August 2017 Fellowship Written SAQ Examination on the 29 August. The Marking Centre provides the opportunity for examiners to meet with their co-marker in person to review their calibration papers and discuss application of the model answers and marking scheme, including whether any additional acceptable answers should be added, before embarking on marking their questions independently. This will allow the marking process of the SAQ paper to be expedited and provides further opportunities to optimise inter-marker reliability and consistency.

Examination related resources can be found on the College website under the Resources tab of the Fellowship Examination section at:

<https://acem.org.au/Education-Training/Specialist-Training-Assessment-and-Exams/Fellowship-Examination.aspx>