

Exams 2021

The current examinations will finish in Spring/Summer 2021 and the new examination structure will be introduced from August 2021. The proposed exam structure is as follows:

MRCEM Examinations

MRCEM Primary SBA

First sitting December 2021

- Single best answer paper assessing basic science underpinning EM care
- Blueprinted to basic sciences curriculum
- Same format as FRCEM Primary
- No restriction in the currency of a pass in FRCEM Primary
- Existing pass in MRCEM Part A between August 2012 – August 2016 remain valid
- Prior unsuccessful attempts at the FRCEM Primary will be counted

MRCEM Intermediate SBA

First sitting September 2021

- Single best answer paper assessing understanding of the full range of conditions and presentation that may be encountered in the ED
- 180 questions, presented as two 90 question papers with two hours per paper
- Will replace the FRCEM Intermediate SAQ and MRCEM Part B (which have a similar syllabus though a different format)
- Existing passes in MRCEM B (after 2012) and FRCEM Intermediate SAQ remain valid
- Prior unsuccessful attempts at the Intermediate SAQ will be counted

MRCEM OSCE

First sitting November 2021

- Objectively samples the clinical and communication skills of trainees and ensures that they are those of someone ready for higher training
- Will replace the existing Intermediate SJP exam (NB. a prior pass in the Intermediate SJP will count for eligibility to undertake FRCEM Final examination and will be accepted for progression to ST4)
- A pass in the SJP will have currency for seven years for entry to higher specialty training
- Same syllabus as current MRCEM OSCE, check list marking replaced with domain-based marking (subject to final GMC approval)
- Existing MRCEM OSCE passes achieved between August 2014 and before end of July 2018 will be valid for FRCEM eligibility and entry to higher training
- From August 2021, all existing MRCEM OSCE passes achieved between August 2014 and July 2021 will be accepted for FRCEM eligibility and entry to higher training (this was approved by the GMC as part of the 2021 curriculum submission)
- Prior unsuccessful attempts at MRCEM OSCE will be counted
- Prior unsuccessful attempts at the SJP will not be counted

FRCEM Examinations

FRCEM SBA

First sitting September 2021

- Single best answer paper assessing entirety of curriculum across all 12 SLOs and syllabus
- 180 questions, presented as two 90 question papers with two hours per paper
- Candidates required to have completed 12 months working with clinical responsibility equivalent to higher specialty training
- Replaces FRCEM Final SAQ
- Existing passes in FRCEM Final SAQ after August 2016 remain valid (though candidates must pass the OSCE/achieve FRCEM within seven years of passing the Final SAQ or FRCEM SBA)
- Four attempts will be permitted and prior unsuccessful attempts at the Final SAQ are counted

FRCEM OSCE

First sitting November 2021

- A revised format of the existing FRCEM OSCE
- Blueprinted to complex and challenging situations that are faced in EM practice (based upon SLOs 3, 7-12)
- Candidates required to have completed 12 months working with clinical responsibility equivalent to higher specialty training
- Pass in FRCEM Final OSCE after August 2016 remains valid (but candidates must pass the Final SAQ/FRCEM SBA/achieve FRCEM within seven years of passing the FRCEM Final OSCE)
- Four attempts will be permitted and prior unsuccessful attempts at the existing FRCEM OSCE will be counted

Existing examinations that will be withdrawn from the formal FRCM examination structure in the 2021 curriculum

There are two existing examinations from the 2015 curriculum in which the skills and knowledge required will now be tested elsewhere in the programme of assessment of the new curriculum.

FRCM Final Critical Appraisal

Final sitting in Spring 2021

- Skills and knowledge will be tested during training within the programme of assessment for SLO 10
- A pass in the critical appraisal examination will be accepted for completion of training for seven years (until July 2028) however trainees who have completed the exam will still be required to demonstrate the key EM capabilities described in SLO10 (e.g. new requirements such as satisfactory completion of Good Clinical Practice). Furthermore, the knowledge and skills required will also be assessed in the FRCM SBA and FRCM OSCE.

FRCM Final QIP

Final sitting in June 2021

- Skills and knowledge will be tested during training within the programme of assessment for SLO 11
- A pass in the FRCM Final QIP examination will be accepted for completion of training until July 2028 without additional evidence
- If a trainee has not successfully completed the examination by Summer 2021, they will be required to demonstrate successful completion of the programme of assessment described in SLO 11 of the new curriculum

Examination requirements for progression

Progression / Entry to Higher Specialist Training (ST4) from August 2021:

- MRCEM Primary SBA or FRCEM Primary
- MRCEM SBA or FRCEM Intermediate SAQ or MRCEM B between August 2012 – August 2016
- MRCEM OSCE after August 2014 or FRCEM Intermediate SJP

Examination requirements for award of MRCEM

- MRCEM Primary SBA or FRCEM Primary
- MRCEM SBA or FRCEM Intermediate SAQ or MRCEM B between August 2012 – August 2016
- MRCEM OSCE after August 2014

NB: candidates who have completed the SJP but not the MRCEM OSCE cannot be awarded the MRCEM post-nominals. The clinical examination must be passed.

Examinations for award of FRCEM from August 2021 (Please refer to training requirements for QI and Research within Transition [documentation](#))

- MRCEM Primary SBA or FRCEM Primary or MRCEM A between August 2012 – August 2016
- MRCEM SBA or FRCEM Intermediate SAQ or MRCEM B between August 2012 – August 2016
- MRCEM OSCE or FRCEM Intermediate SJP
- FRCEM SBA or FRCEM Final SAQ between August 2016 August 2021
- FRCEM Final OSCE

Examinations for award of FRCEM BEFORE August 2021

- FRCEM Primary or MRCEM A between August 2012 – August 2016
- FRCEM Intermediate SAQ or MRCEM B between August 2012 – August 2016
- FRCEM Intermediate SJP or MRCEM OSCE between August 2014 and July 2018
- FRCEM Final Critical Appraisal
- FRCEM Final QIP
- FRCEM Final SAQ
- FRCEM Final OSCE