

► Examiners Report for October 2004 COP

Overall the examiners were pleased with the result of this examination. The standard achieved is much higher than that in recent years candidates had clearly prepared themselves well and are a credit to their hospital and trainers.

Machine Check:

21 Candidates

20 passed

Pass rate 95%

Examiners would like to remind candidates that during the machine check they need to clearly verbalise what they are doing. This is particularly important were they do not follow the same pattern as other candidates. At times the examiners were required to guess what the candidates were trying to achieve.

Most candidates used their time wisely. Few repeated unnecessary checks e.g. checking cut off on both cylinder and wall supply.

Unintentional faults in some machines caused distress to some candidates but none were penalized because of it.

Clinical Scenario:

20 candidates

18 passed

Pass rate 90%

Some candidates do find the situation in the scenario unrealistic. Unfortunately this will be an ongoing problem. Increasingly the scenario is a valuable tool that requires more than just rote learning.

For each scenario the criteria for a pass or fail are set and these may vary from scenario to scenario. The examiners also have a range of behaviours that are expected to be observed in the examination and a failure to meet a significant proportion of these result in failure, these expectations include, as per the NZATS requirements a level 3 machine check were appropriate, an adherence to good universal standards with clear separate management of clean dirty instruments etc, communication skills preparation of appropriate equipment etc.

Overall the standard was very good most coped with the situation well.

Equipment viva:

20 candidates

19 passed

Pass rate 95%

The examiners were very impressed at the high standard achieved.

General Viva:

20 candidates

20 passed

Pass rate 100%

The examiners were very impressed at the high standard achieved.

Vivas:

Overall results

20 candidates

18 passed

Pass rate 90%

The examiners were impressed at the standard achieved. Candidates had equipped themselves well for the examination and have obviously read widely and given thought to the everyday equipment that they use.

The examiners can not stress too much the need for candidate preparation including the reading and familiarisation with one or more equipment books.

The examiners would like to congratulate the candidates on their performance.

Dr Andrew Warmington
Chairman Examination Committee