

Examination Report Sept/Oct 08

Part 1: MCQs

3 candidates sat the MCQs all 3 receiving the 75% pass mark or more. This was sat at either the students own hospital or within their region. This process appeared to go well with no negative feedback from centres or co-ordinators.

Part 2: Machine checks and OSCES

This was held at the Christchurch Women's Hospital where we had tremendous support from Chris Allen, who helped with student orientation during the days before the exam and then helped out on the actual exam day, thank you.

13 Candidates presented for this part, with 10 of the students being resit's from previous Exams.

All 13 Candidates successfully passed this section, only 3 Candidates passing all 10 OSCE stations.

Candidates need to have an understanding of the anaesthetic machine how and why you test each individual part, understanding of machine function seems to be a constant, students are also reminded that they need to be gentle with the equipment, examiners noted there was a tendency for students to be rather rough.

OSCES: this was the second time for this and the exam committee were pleased that they appeared to go well, with the examiners expressing that it is more robust way to test overall practical knowledge. These stations were designed to name, test or prepare equipment that is usually handled by technicians.

Future candidates are encouraged to look around at everyday items and understand their function. It appeared that we take for granted items we see most days.

I wish to thank all those involved in the examination process for giving up your own time to ensure the on going development and strengthening of our profession.

Nicola Smith-Guerin
Examination Committee
NZATS